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NRL Report 6365

Values for Scattering by Dielectric Spheres in the Region of the First Resonance

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ABSTRACT

The scattering intensity as a function of sphere size in wavelengths was plotted for H-plane scattering at 90° in the region of the first resonance. Graphs of K (the dielectric constant) from 5 to 24 and $\tan \delta$ (the loss tangent) from 0.001 to 0.2 are presented for nonmagnetic spheres in vacuo. The purpose of these data is to serve as a comparison standard in evaluating K and $\tan \delta$ by scattering measurements on a spherical sample. The experimental method is described in "A Method of Determining the Dielectric Constant Applicable to High Temperatures," published in the "Proceedings of the OSU-RTD Electromagnetic Window Symposium," Vol. III, June 1964.

PROBLEM STATUS

This is a final report on one phase of the problem; work is continuing on the problem.

AUTHORIZATION

NRL Problem P02-04
Projects SF 010-02-01-9296 and SF 010-02-01-9300

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SCATTERING BY DIELECTRIC SPHERES IN THE REGION OF THE FIRST RESONANCE

INTRODUCTION

The general solution for a plane wave incident on a homogeneous isotropic sphere was given by Mie (1). The intensity of the radiation scattered by such a sphere is a function of its size, the index of refraction, the scattering angle, and the intensity, frequency, and polarization of the incident wave. Throughout this discussion, a sphere of unit permeability in vacuo is assumed.

This report is an intensive investigation covering a selected range of the above variables. It is limited to H-plane scattering at 90° in the region of the first resonance. The complex index of refraction is given in terms of the dielectric constant K and loss tangent δ for the following values: $K = 5.0$ (0.2) 12.8* and 13 (1) 24 and $\tan \delta = 0.001$, 0.01, and 0.1; $K = 6.0$ (0.2) 11.8 and 12 (1) 24 and $\tan \delta = 0.04$ and 0.07; and $K = 5$ (1) 16 and $\tan \delta = 0.2$. The data are presented in graphic form for convenience in evaluating experimental scattering measurements. This method of measuring K and $\tan \delta$ is discussed elsewhere (3).

RADAR CROSS SECTION OF DIELECTRIC SPHERES

For the incident electric vector perpendicular to the plane of scattering (H-plane) (4)

$$I = \frac{I_0}{k^2 r^2} |S_1(\theta)|^2 \quad (1)$$

where I_0 is the intensity of the incident wave, I is the intensity of the scattered wave, $k = 2\pi/\lambda$, r is the range, and θ is the angle between the direction of propagation of the incident and scattered wave. $S_1(\theta)$ is the complex scattering function

$$S_1(\theta) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{2n+1}{n(n+1)} \left[\frac{a_n P_n^1(\cos \theta)}{\sin \theta} + b_n \frac{d}{d\theta} P_n^1(\cos \theta) \right] \quad (2)$$

in which P_n^1 is the associated Legendre polynomial and a_n and b_n , the Mie coefficients, are functions of ka and m , where a is the radius and m is the index of refraction, given by

$$m = \sqrt{K(1 - i \tan \delta)}.$$

For H-plane scattering at 90° the radar cross section of a sphere is given by

$$\sigma = 4\pi r^2 \frac{I}{I_0} = \frac{4\pi}{k^2} \left| S_1\left(\frac{\pi}{2}\right) \right|^2. \quad (3)$$

*This notation indicates that values of K range from 5.0 to 12.8 with an interval of 0.2 between values (2).

It is convenient to consider the ratio of σ for a dielectric sphere (σ_d) to σ for a conducting sphere (σ_c). For σ_d/σ_c in db

$$10 \log \frac{\sigma_d}{\sigma_c} = 10 \log \left| s_1 \left(\frac{\pi}{2} \right) \right|_d^2 - 10 \log \left| s_1 \left(\frac{\pi}{2} \right) \right|_c^2. \quad (4)$$

EFFECT OF VARIOUS PARAMETERS ON SCATTERING INTENSITY

In Figs. 1 through 59, $10 \log |s_1(\pi/2)|^2$ is plotted as a function of ka . The curves in Figs. 1 through 58 are plotted using as parameters the values of K and $\tan \delta$ that were stated in the introduction. Figure 59 is the case for $\tan \delta = \infty$. The lowest value of the loss tangent presented is 10^{-3} . Below this value the effect of loss on $s_1(\pi/2)$ is insignificant. Over the range of K and ka under discussion, curves for $\tan \delta = 0$ would almost coincide with $\tan \delta = 10^{-3}$ except for a very narrow region on the first resonance hump where the scattering for lossless spheres may be as much as 1 db greater. The range of ka was chosen to include the first resonant dip.

Reference to the data illustrates that over a certain range of the dielectric constant and loss tangent a small change in these parameters results in a large change in $s_1(\pi/2)$. The larger this change, the more detailed information we can obtain from scattering measurements. For $K < 6$ and $\tan \delta \leq 10^{-2}$ the resonance dip is shallow. Increasing the loss tangent has two effects: the resonance becomes deeper, and the rate of change in $s_1(\pi/2)$ as a function of $\tan \delta$ is greater. For $K \gtrsim 8$ the dip in the curve is sharpest between $\tan \delta = 10^{-1}$ and $\tan \delta = 10^{-2}$. For higher values than $\tan \delta = 10^{-1}$ the resonance disappears. If K is increased in constant increments, the distance between curves progressively becomes slightly less. If increments are chosen in percent of dielectric constant, this decrease in distance is small. The limitations on polarization, scattering angle, and size parameter are stated above. Investigation of scattering for other values of these parameters may extend the range of K and $\tan \delta$ for which useful information is obtainable.

COMPUTATION METHOD AND ACCURACY

The Mie coefficients may be expressed in terms of spherical Bessel functions. If $\tan \delta \neq 0$, the argument is complex. Since tables of Bessel functions for complex argument are not available, it was necessary to compute them. The Mie coefficients were programmed on the NAREC (Naval Research Electronic Computer). The accuracy of a_n and b_n was checked to four significant figures by comparing them with values reported in the literature. It is believed they are accurate to several more places.

For the small values of ka used, only the first few terms in the complex scattering function are significant. Four terms were used for the values of $s_1(\pi/2)$ reported. The distance between computed points varies widely along the curves. The smallest interval for ka was 0.01. Data points were placed close enough together to show all significant wiggles on the curves. Except for very sharp peaks and dips it is estimated that all errors are less than 1/2 db. In general, the data are accurate to within 0.1 db.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT

The author wishes to thank Mr. R. E. McGill, Applied Mathematics Staff, who programmed the Mie coefficients on the NAREC.

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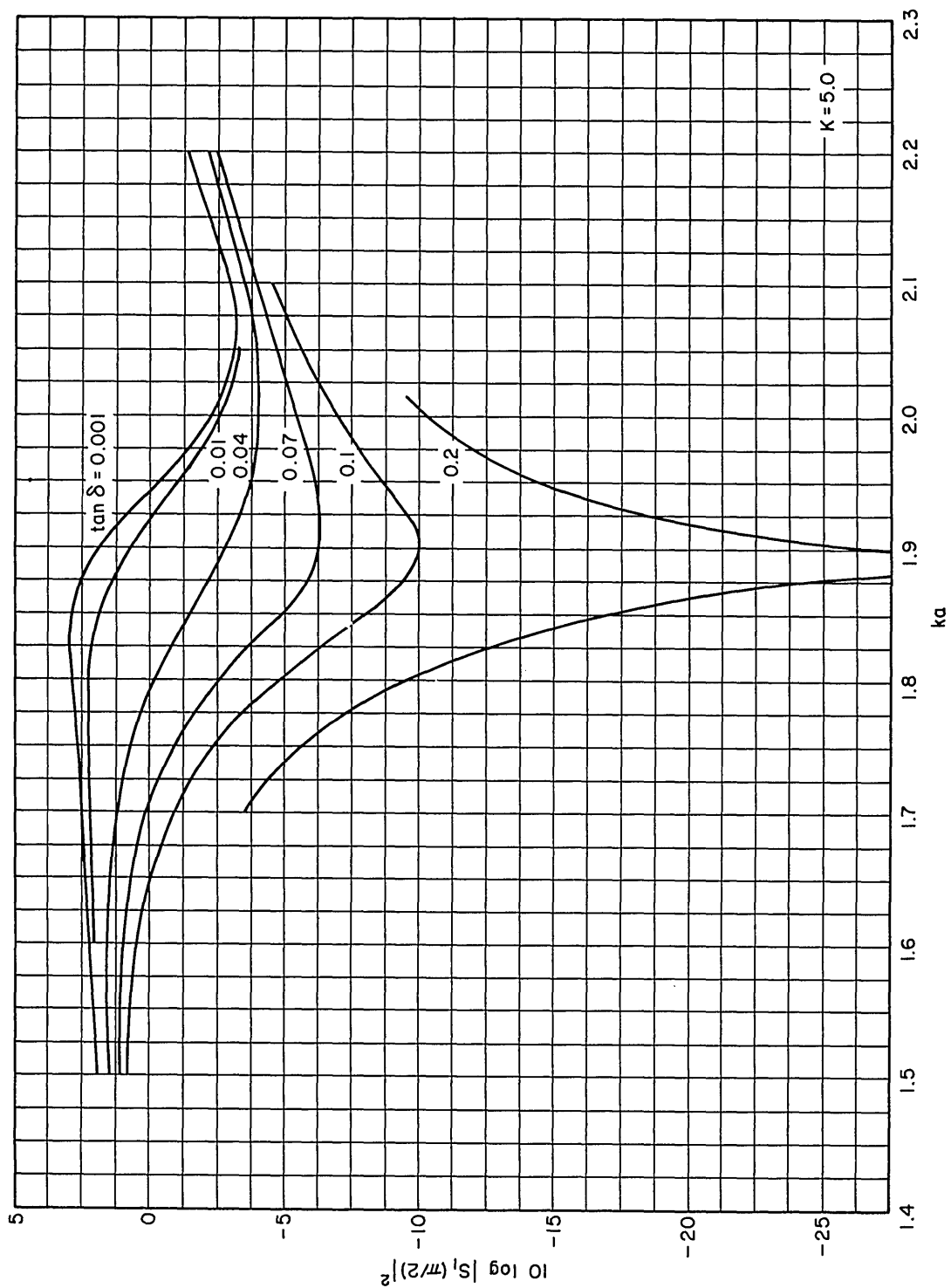


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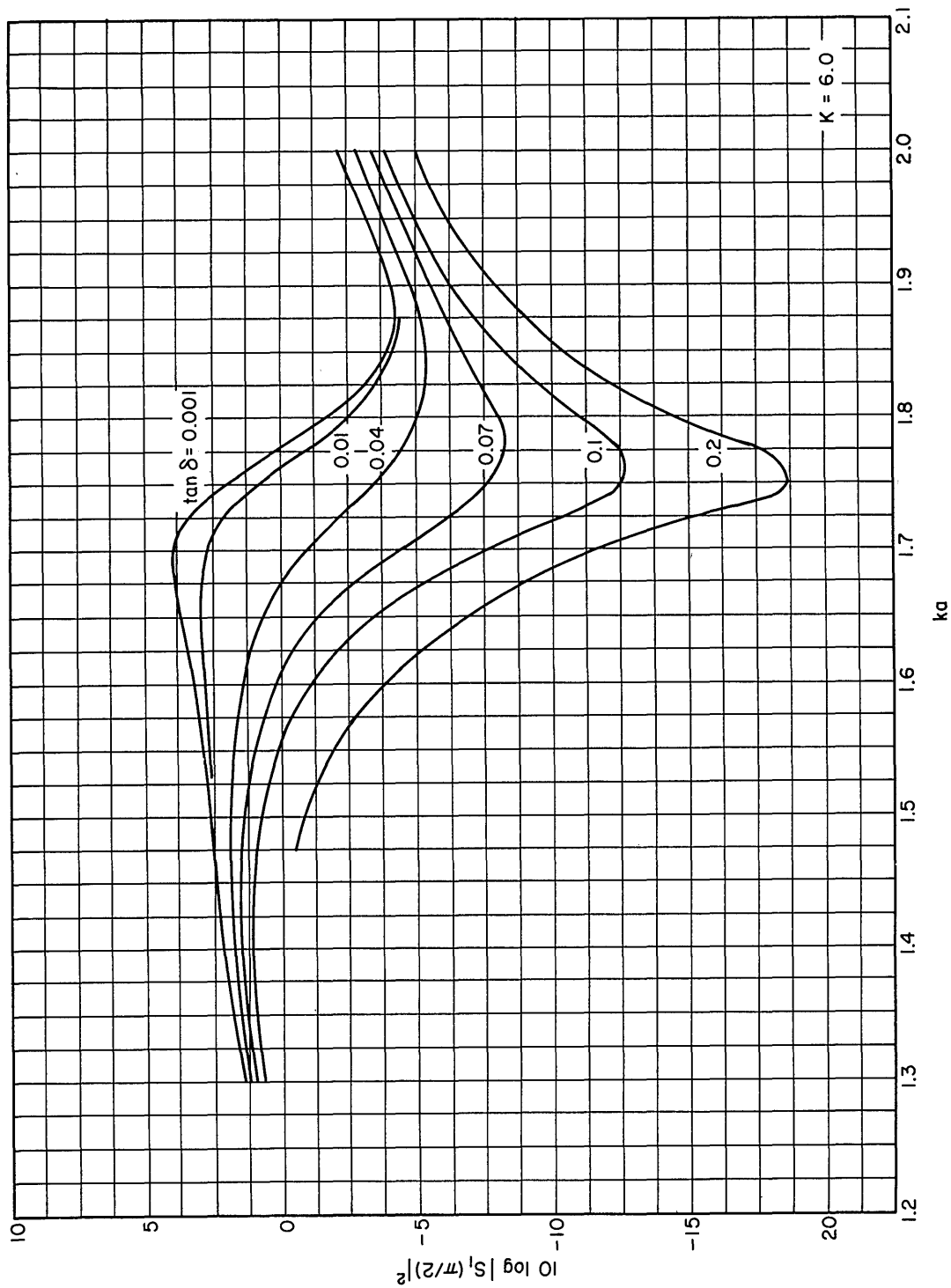


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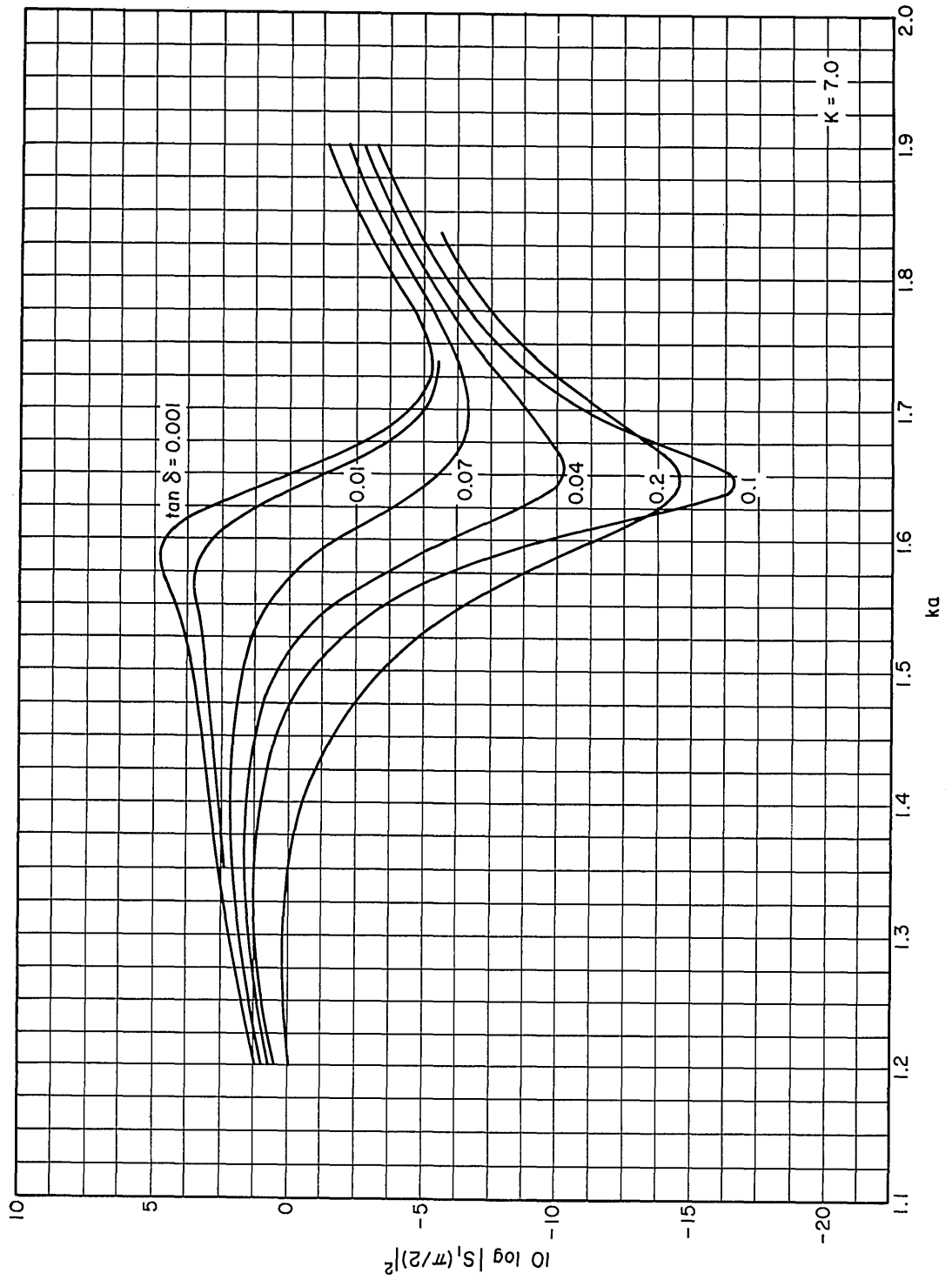


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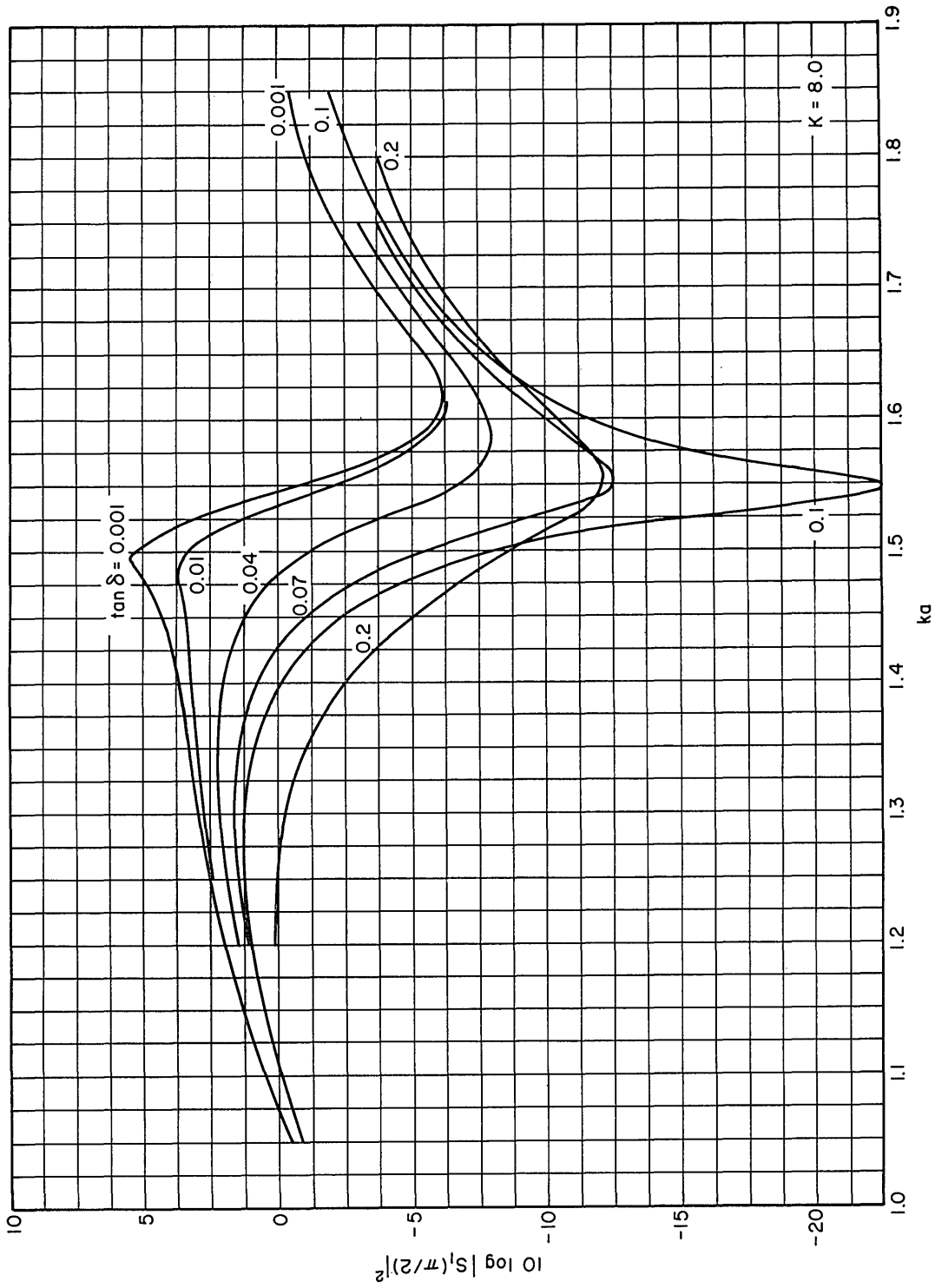


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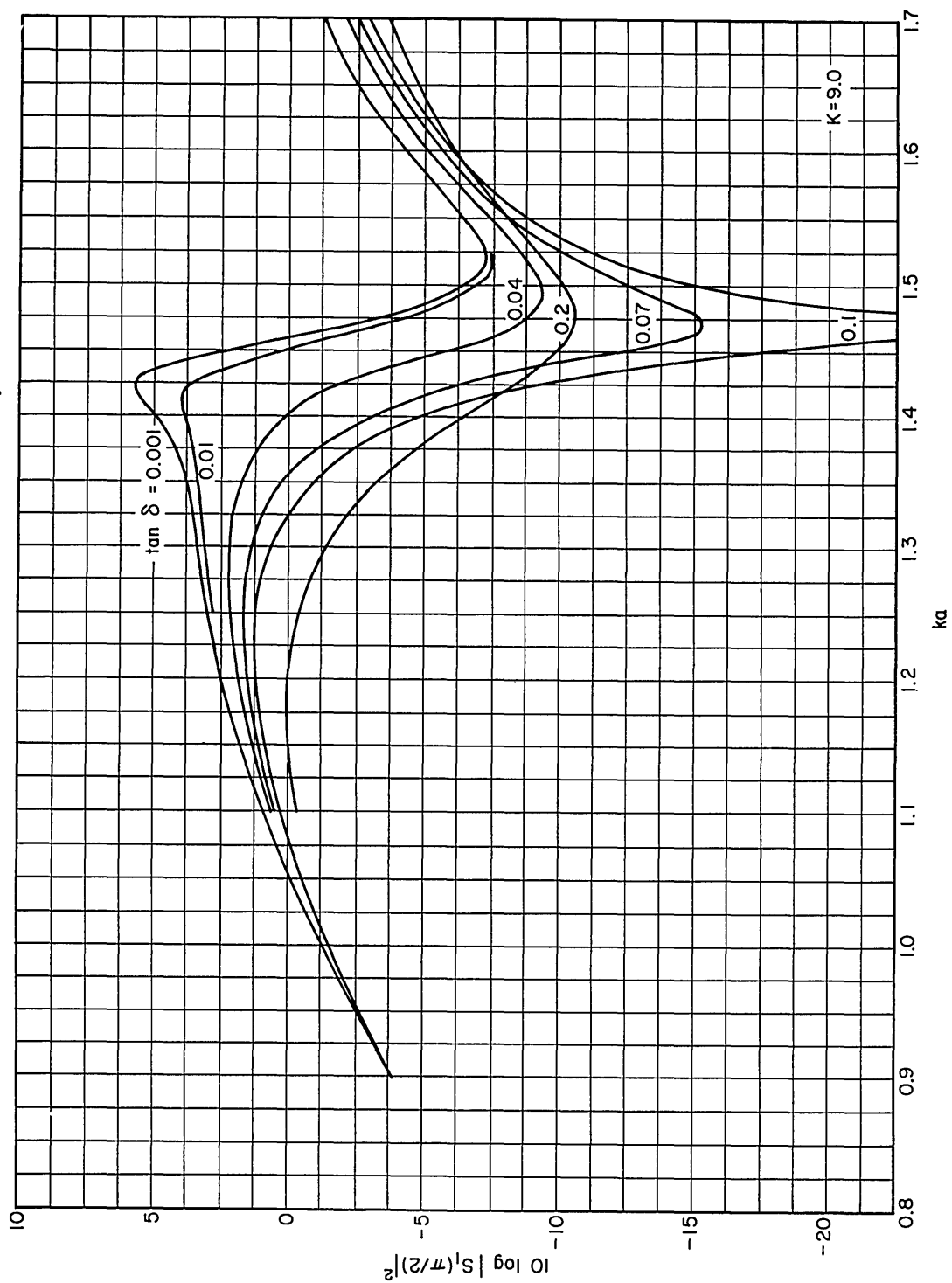


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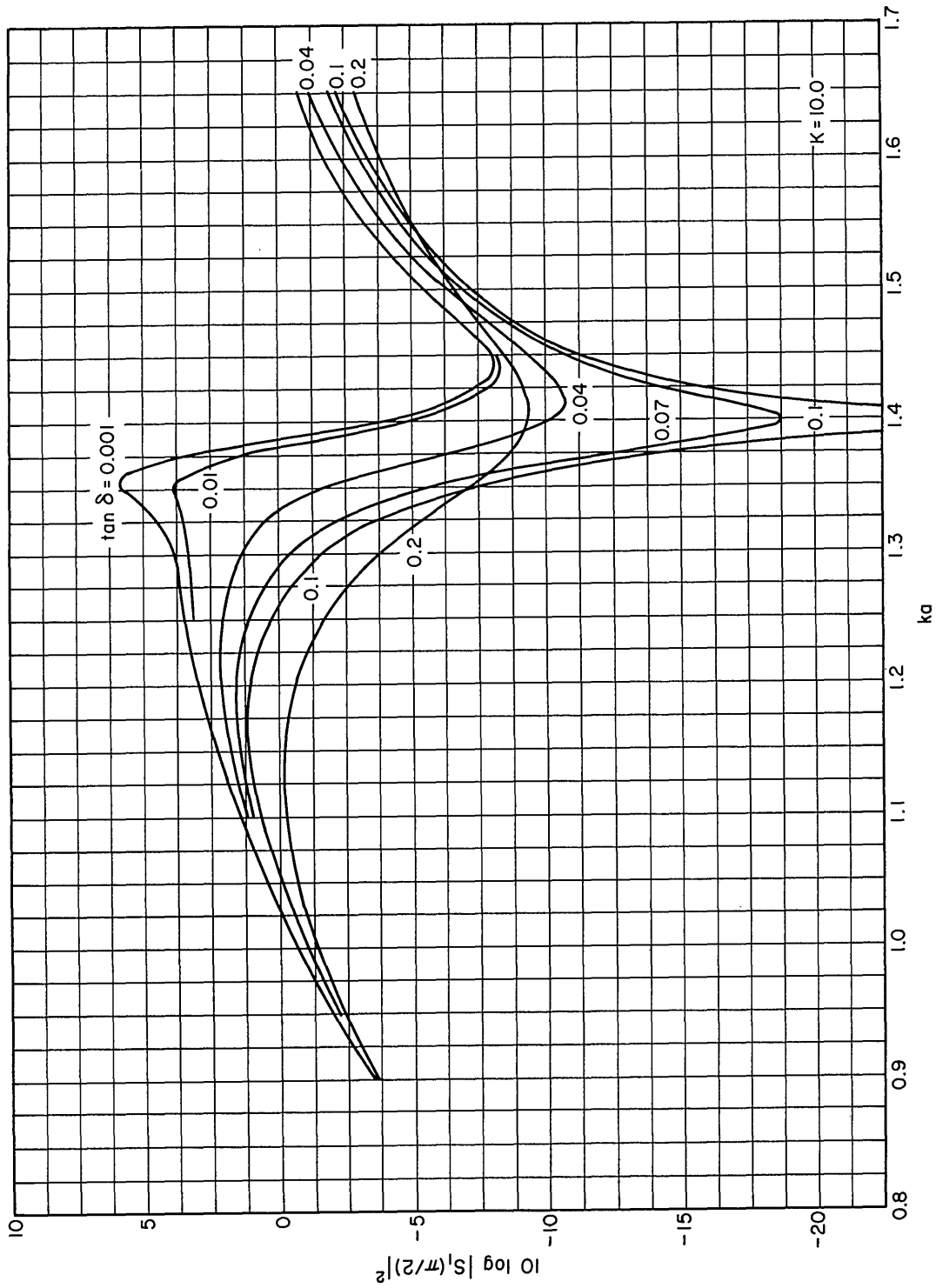


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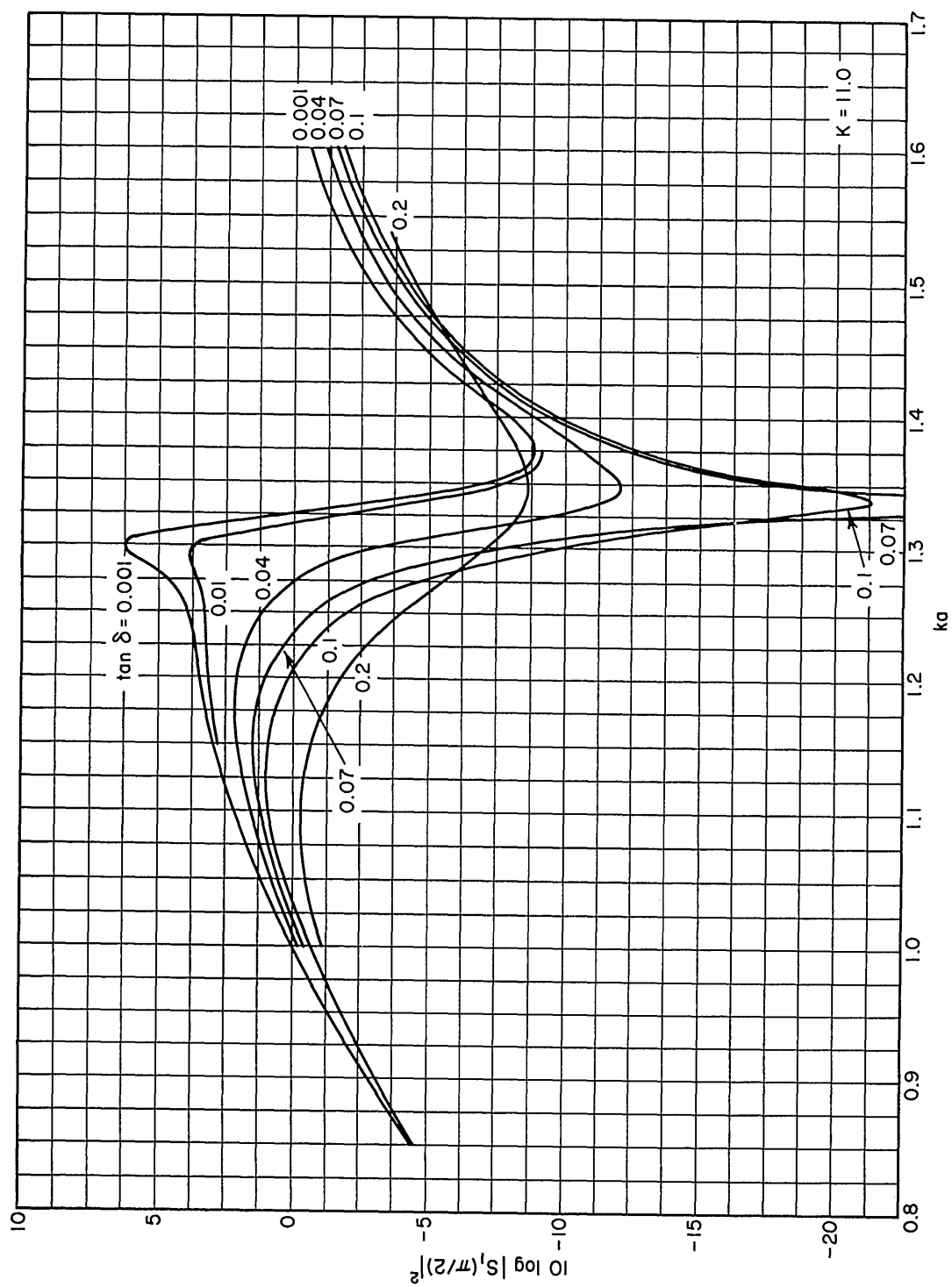


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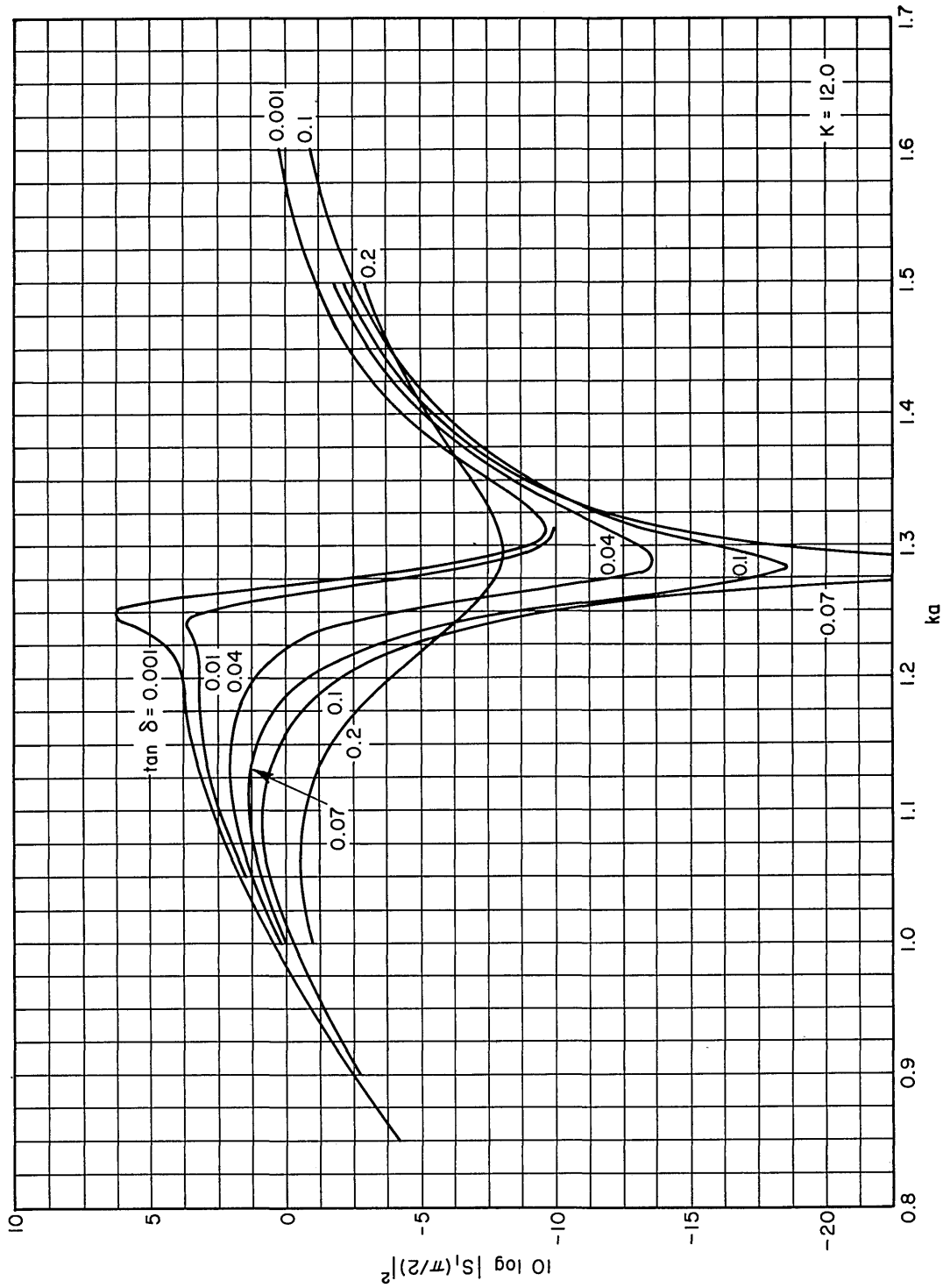


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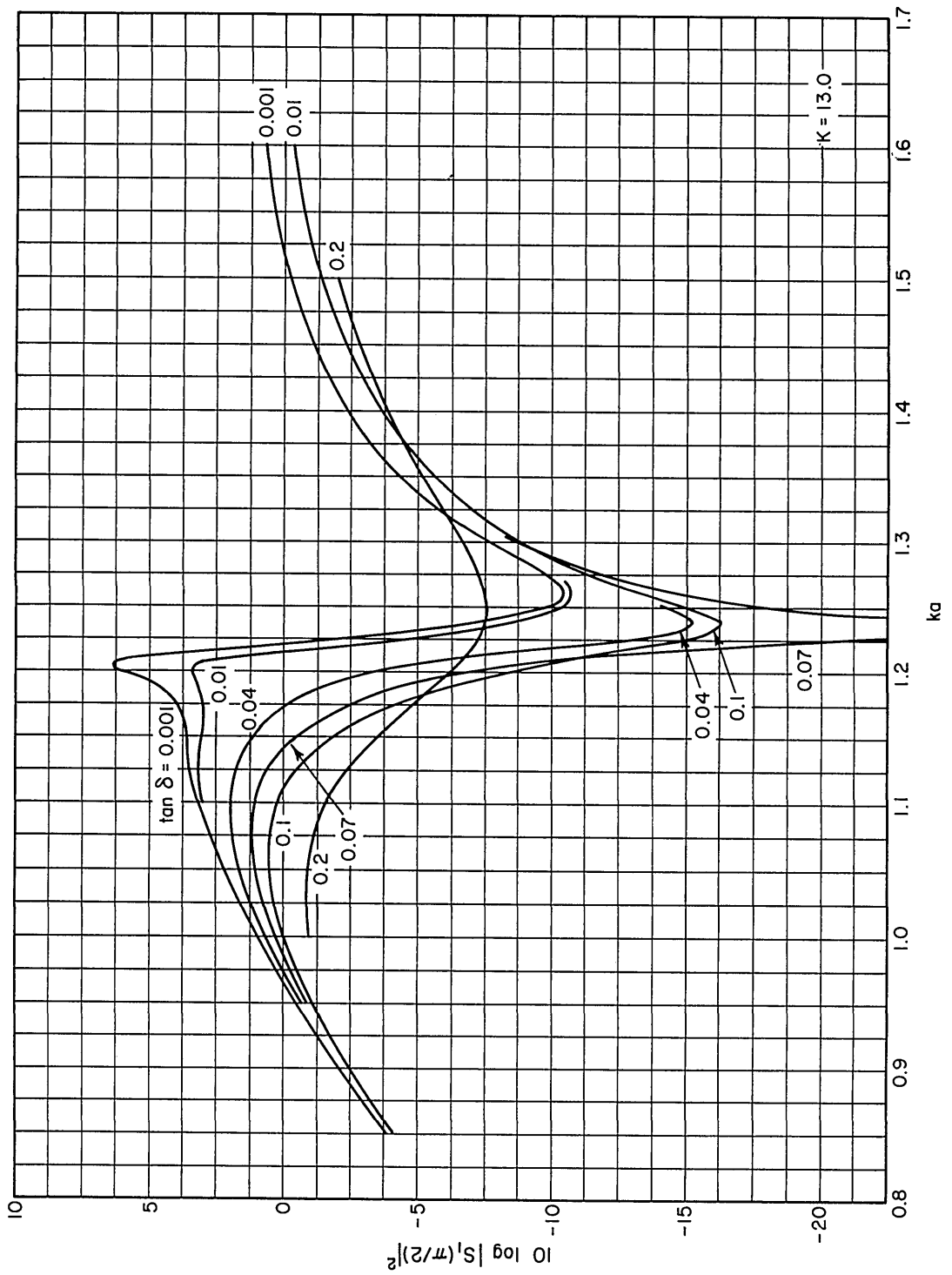


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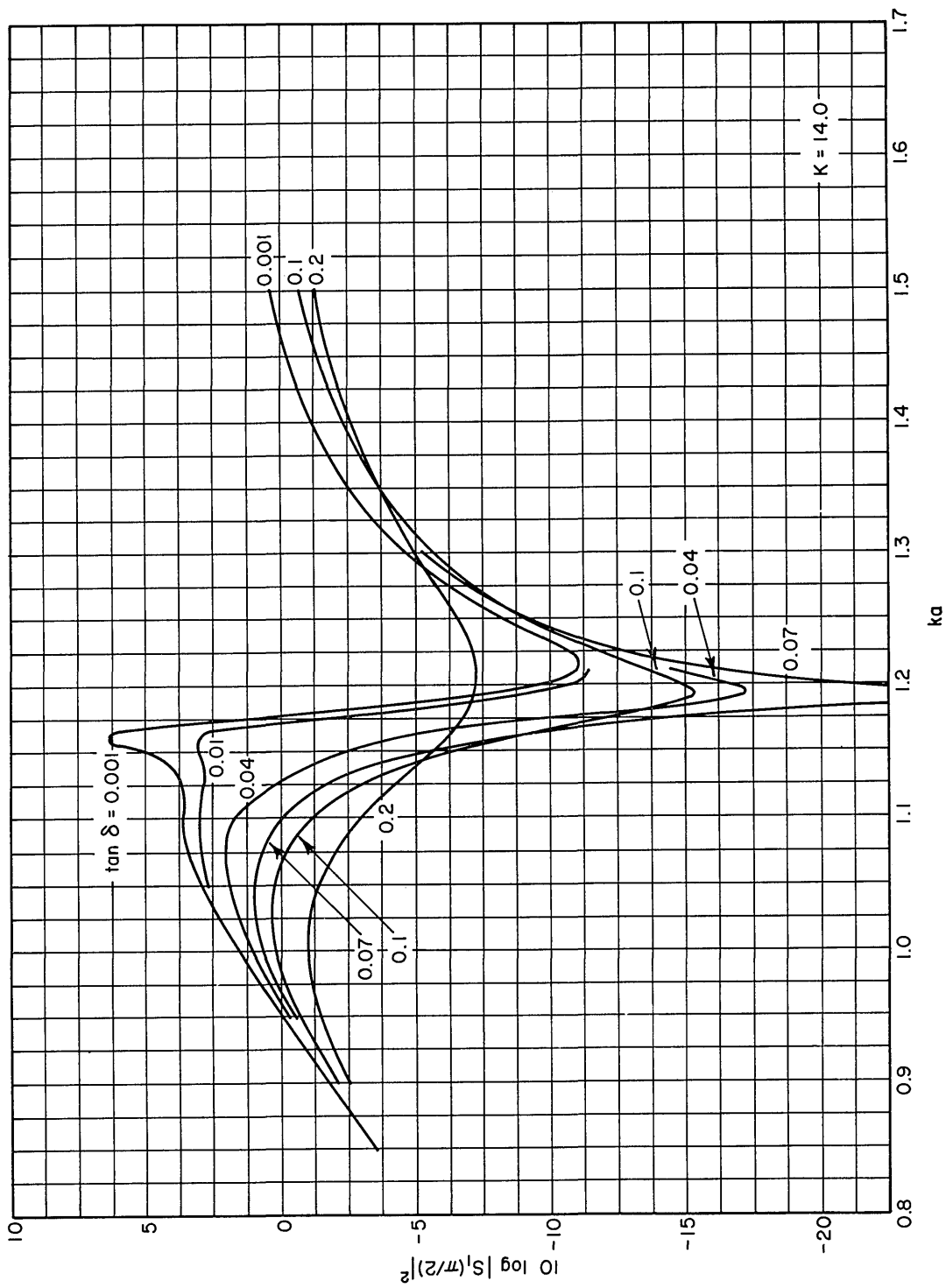


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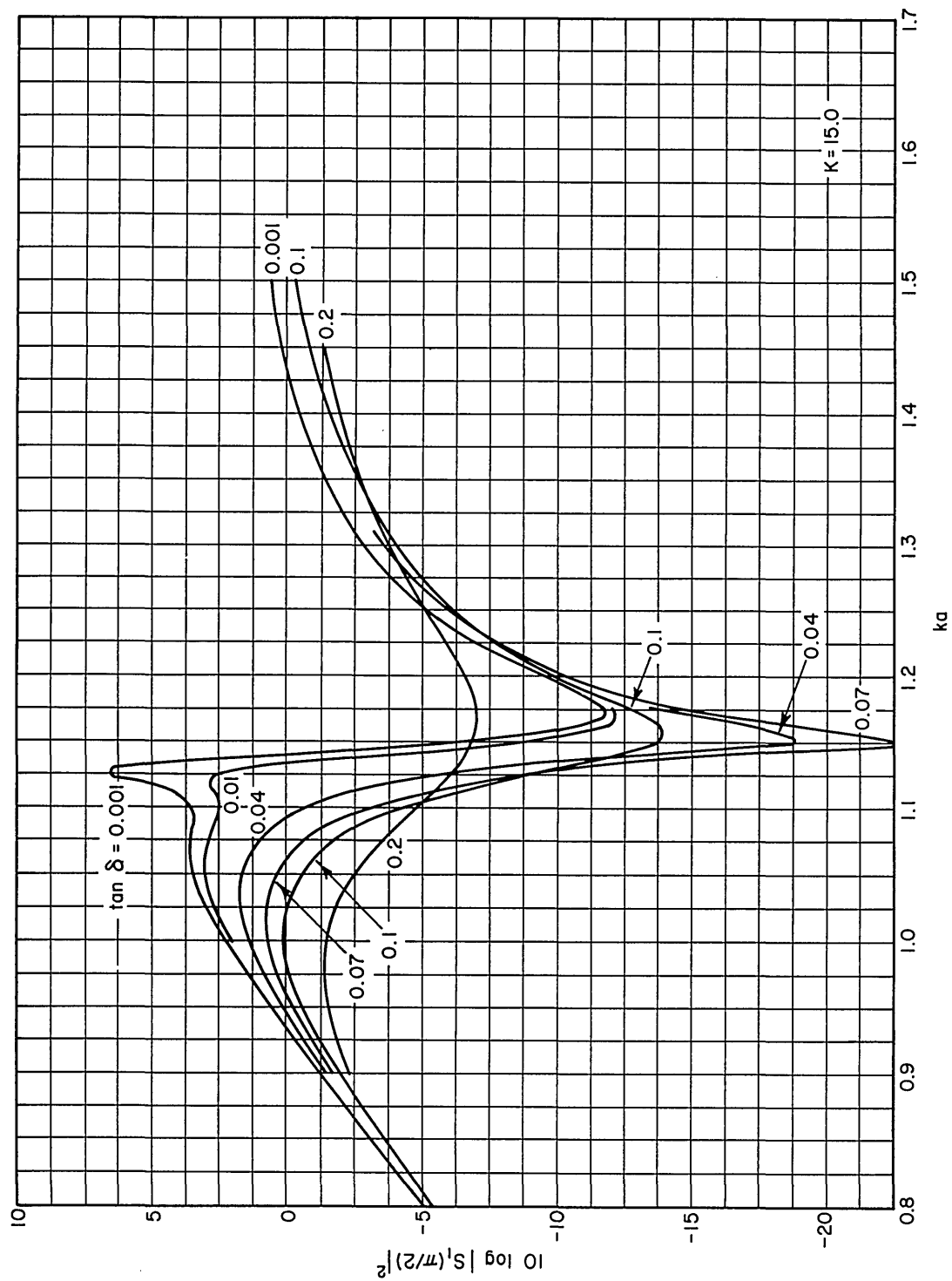


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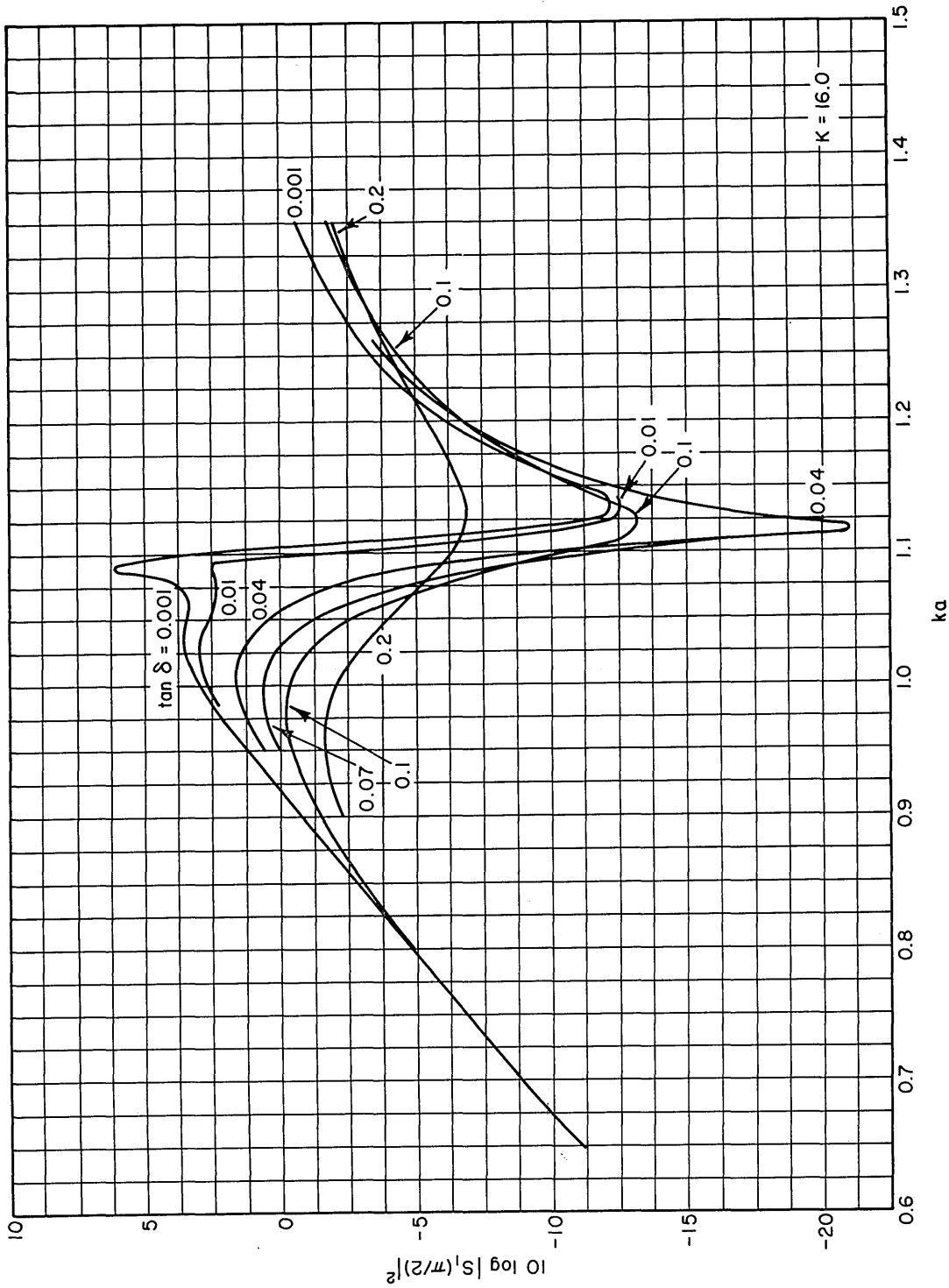


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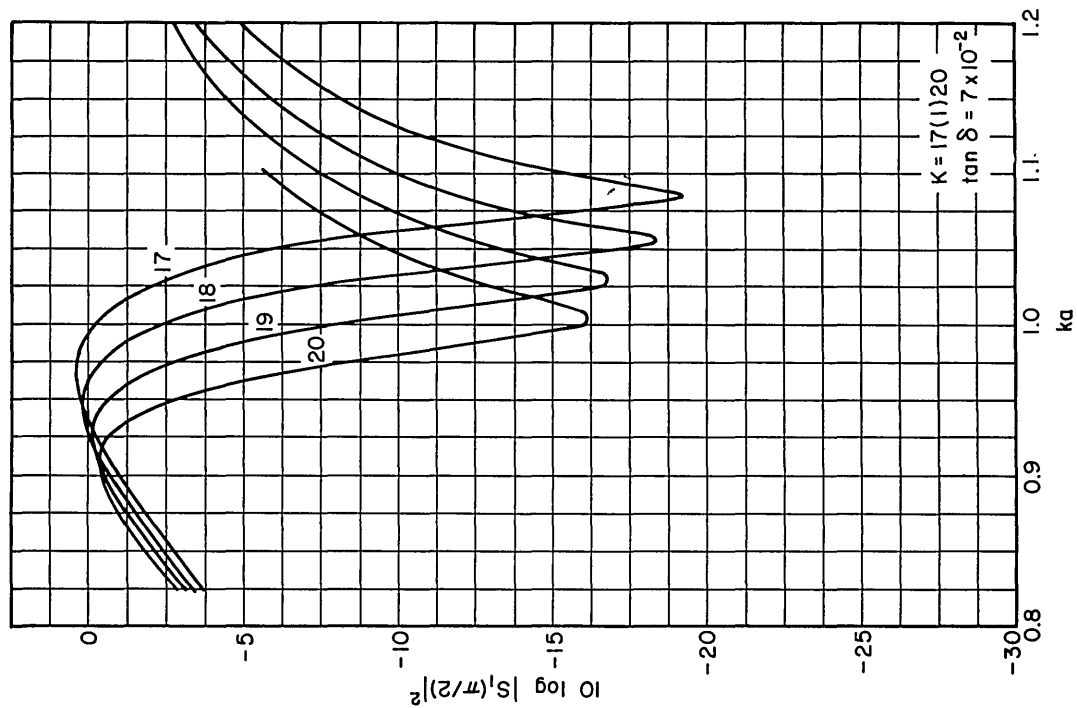


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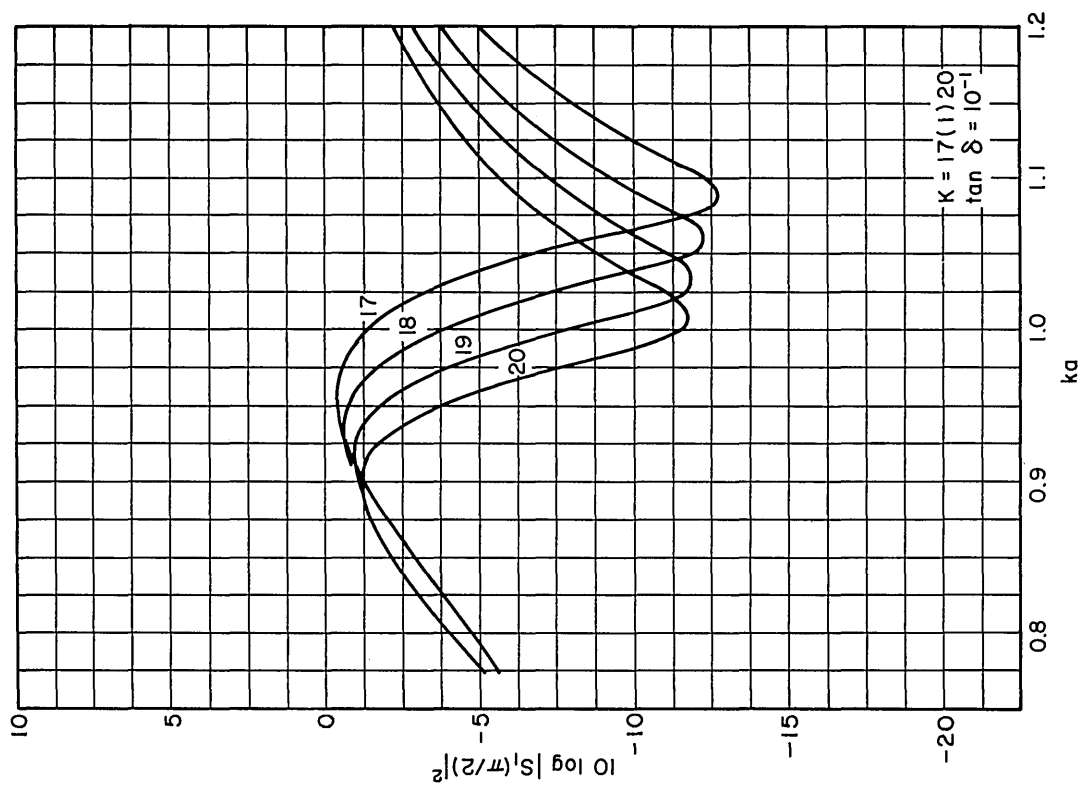


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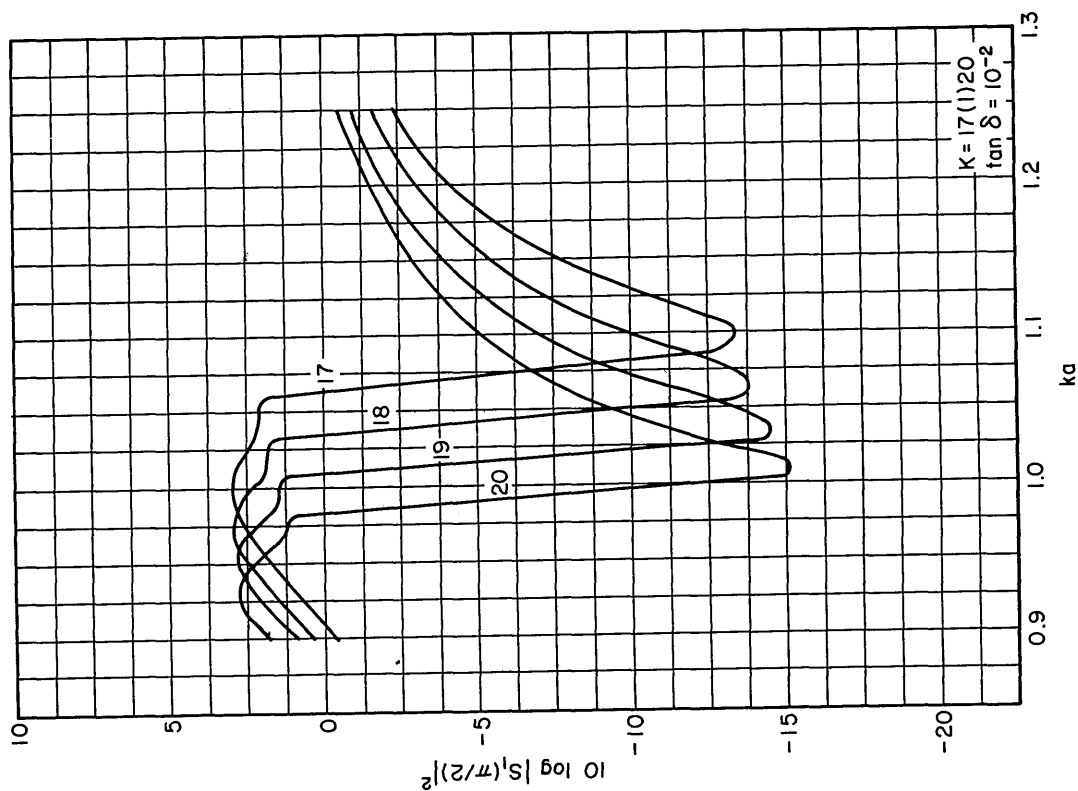


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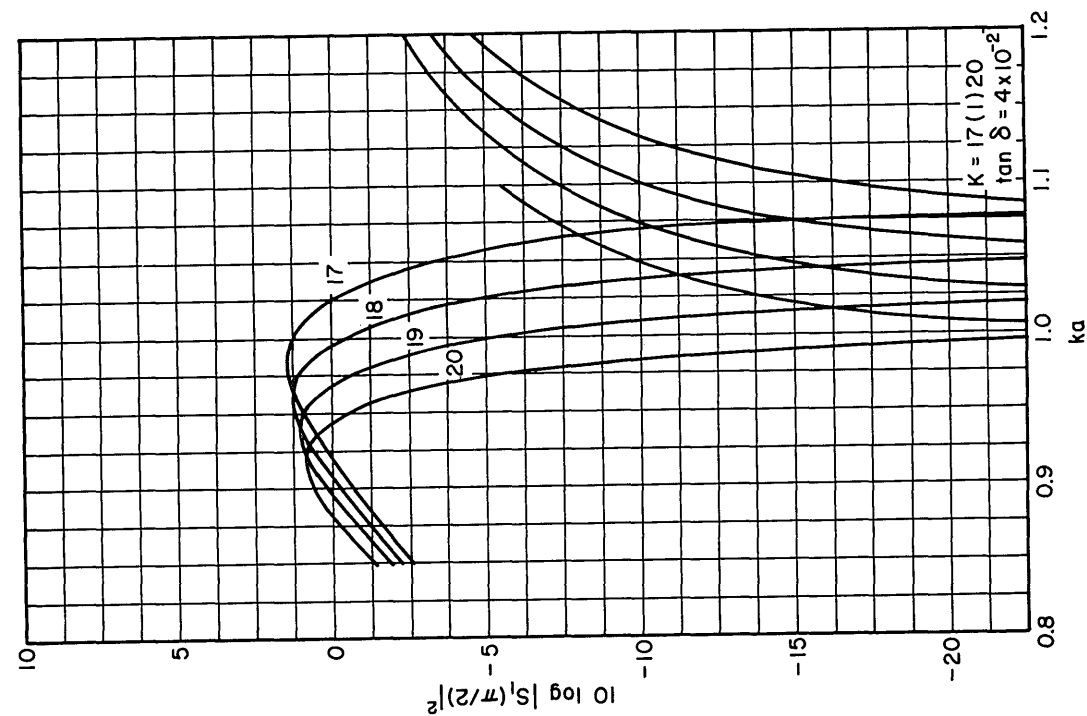


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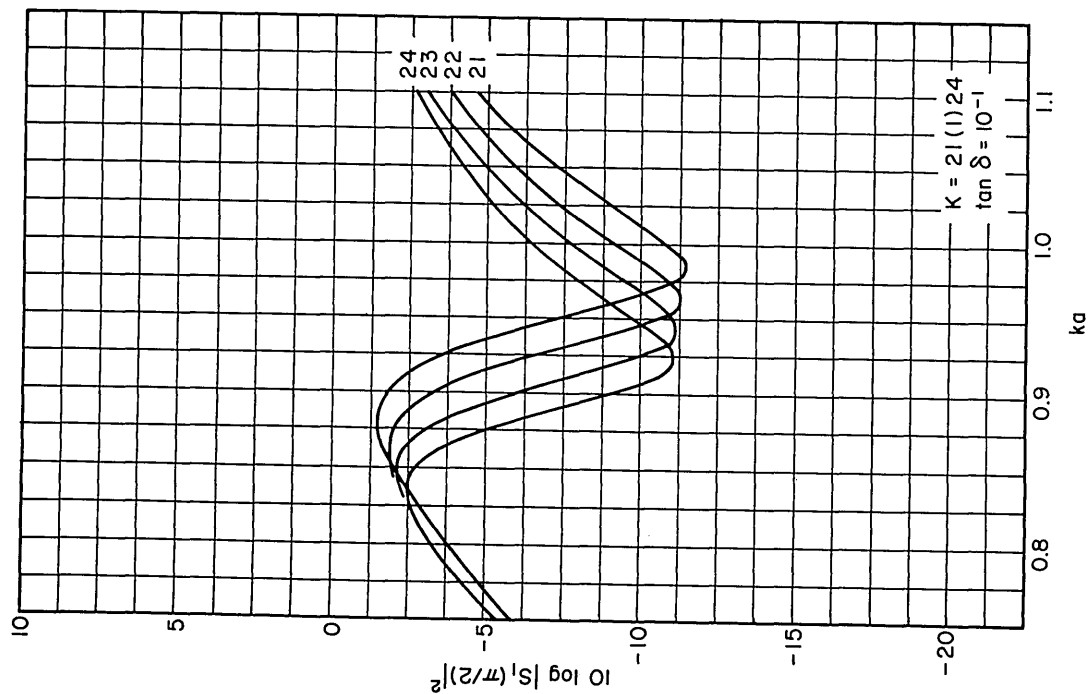


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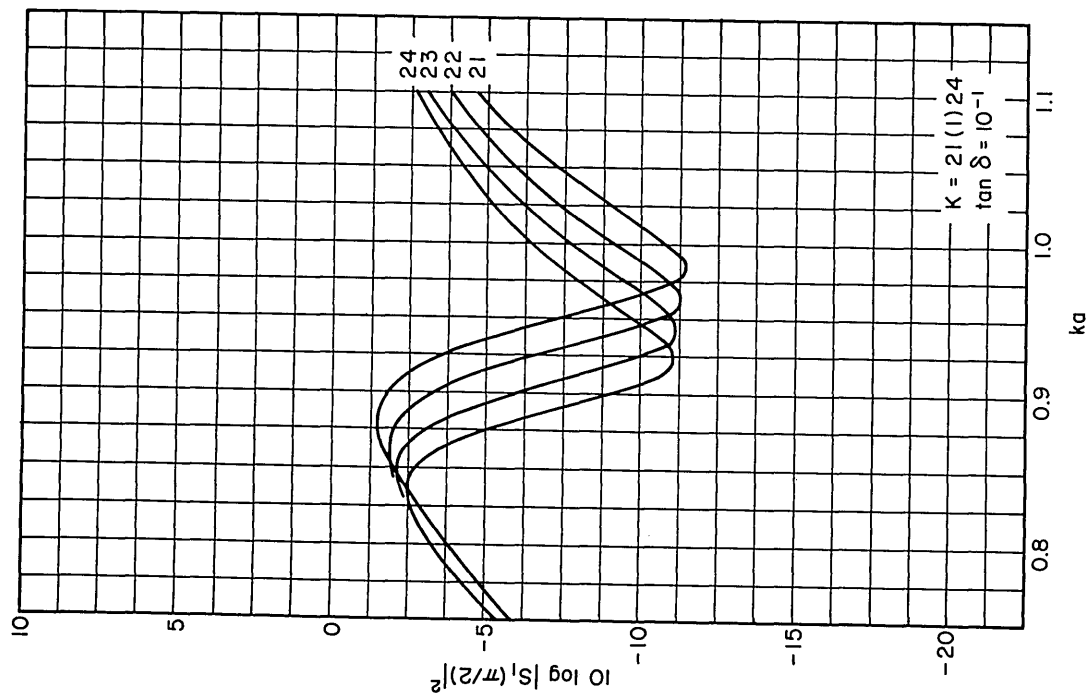


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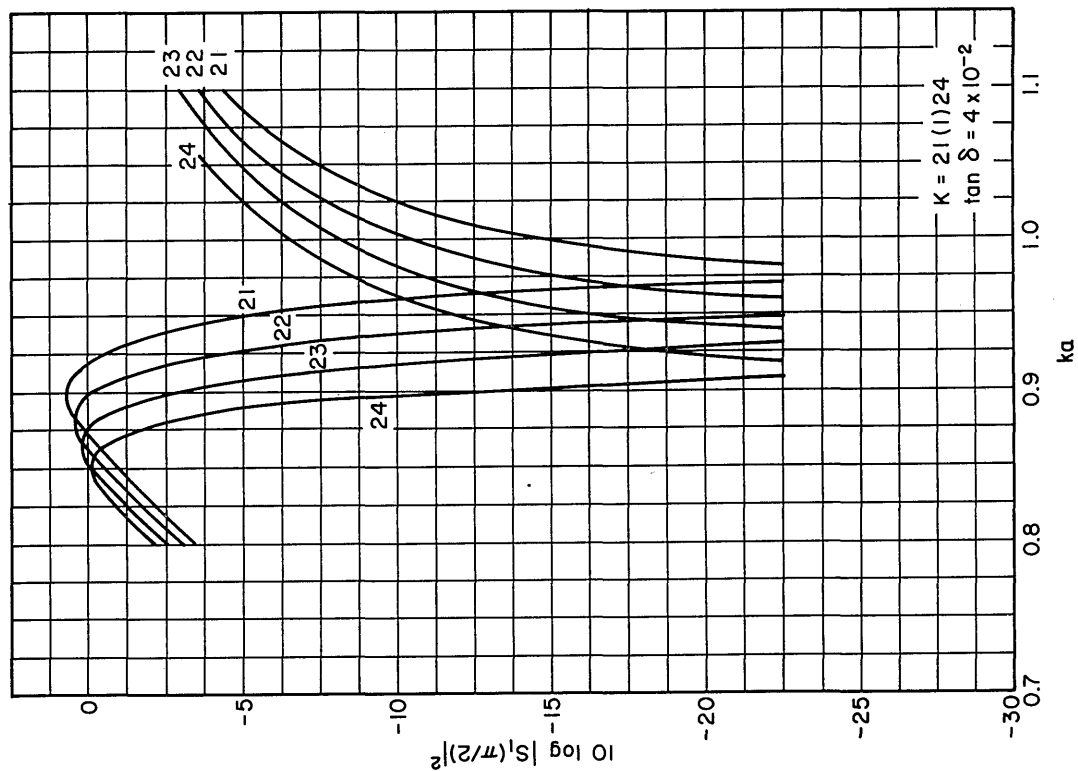


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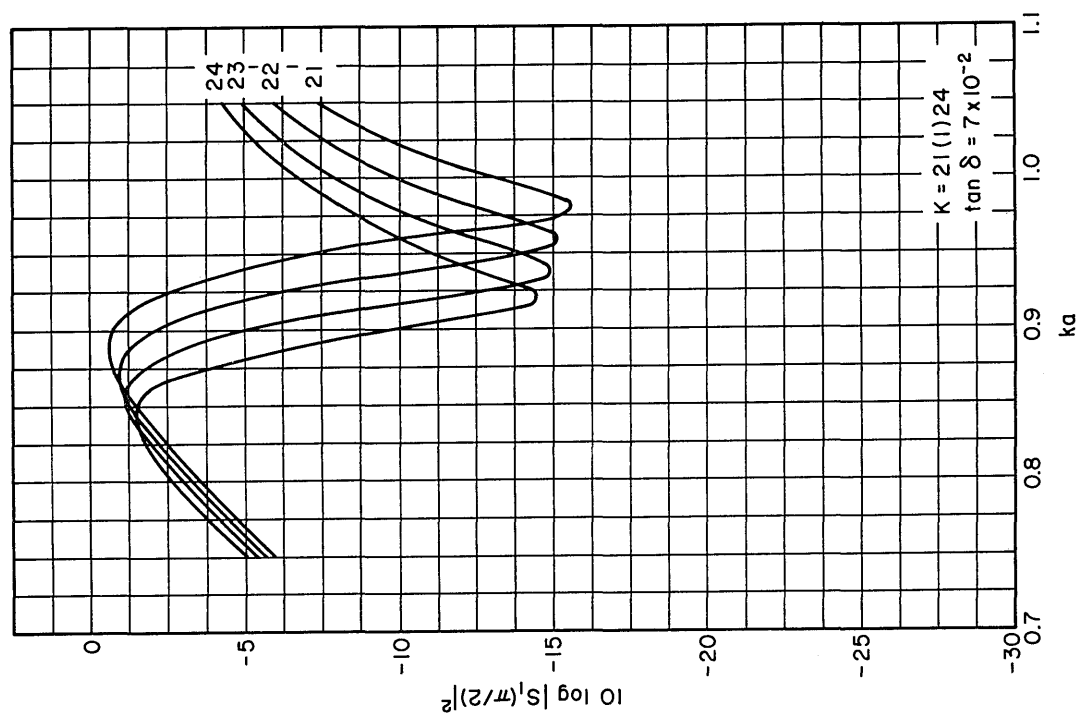


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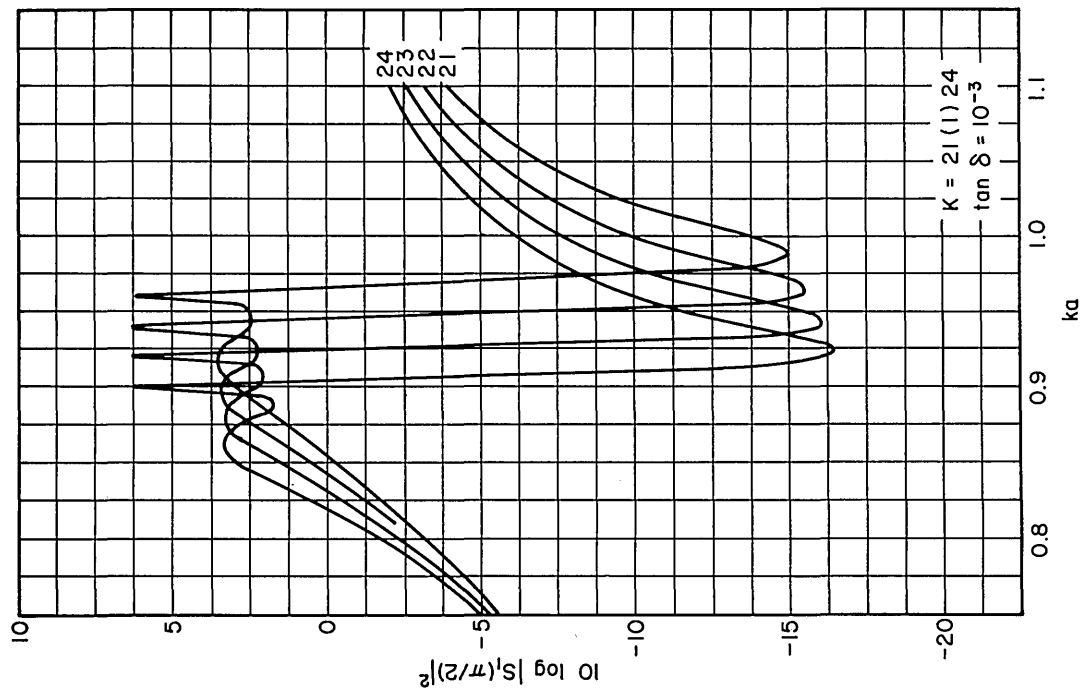


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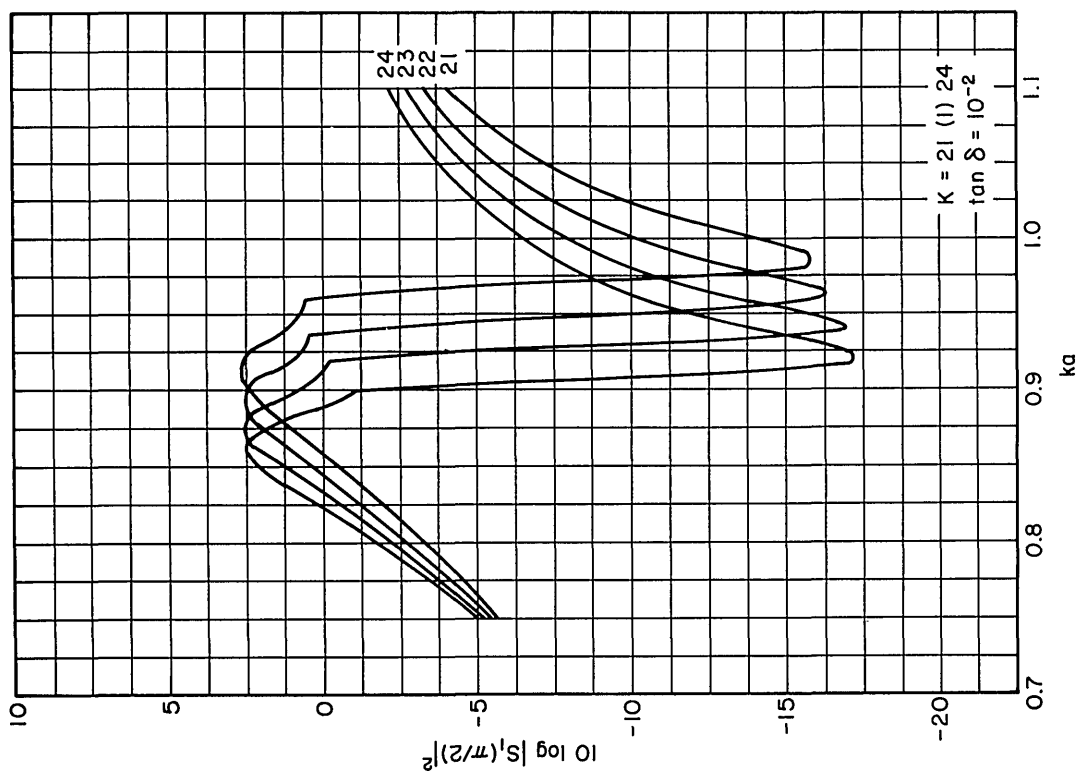


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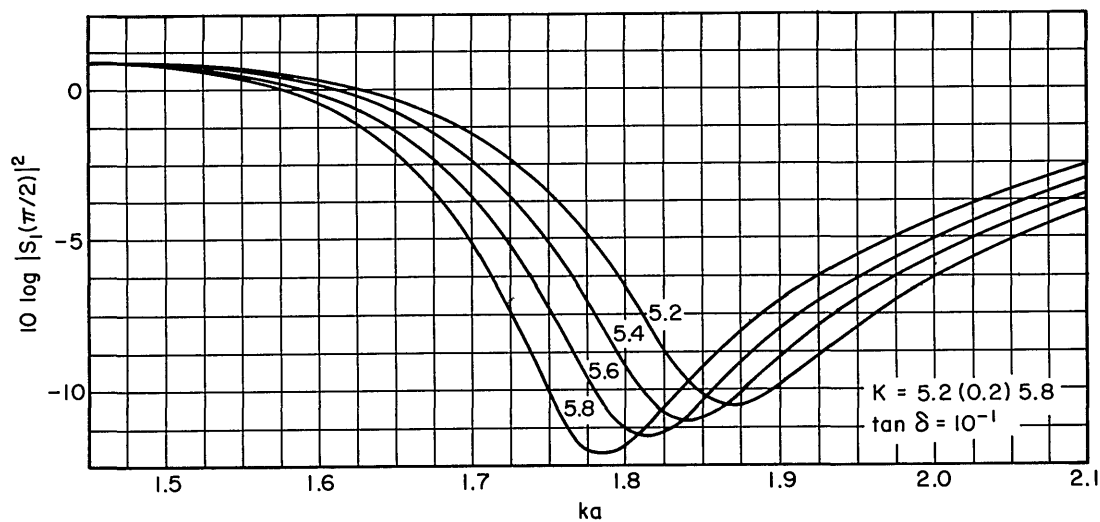


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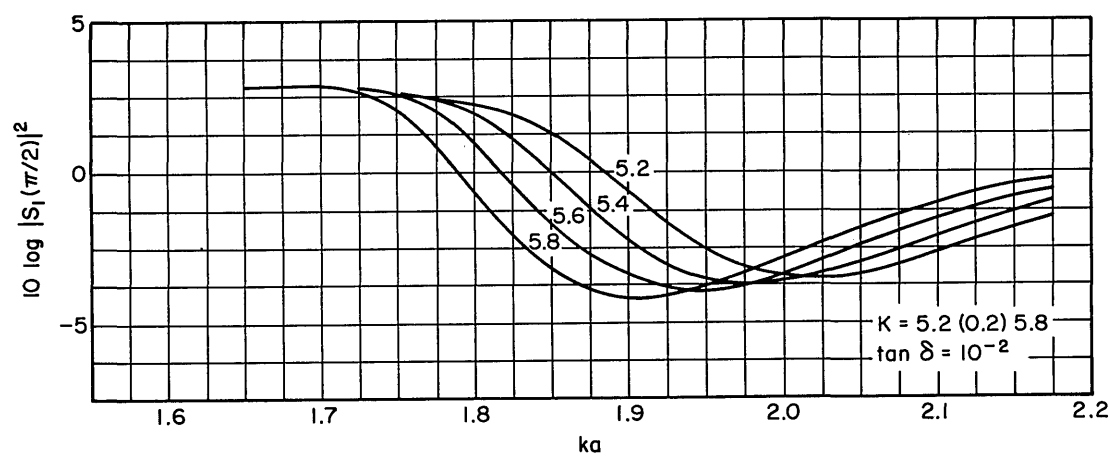


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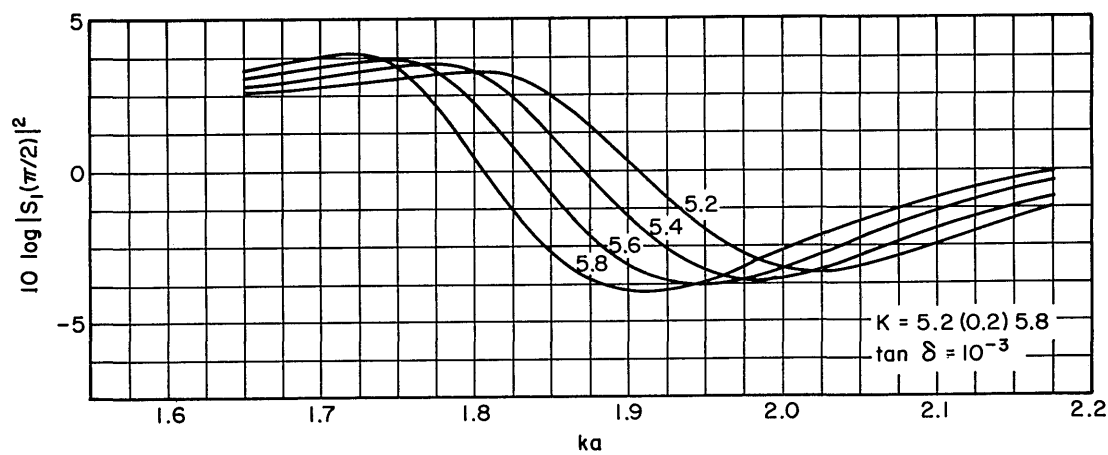


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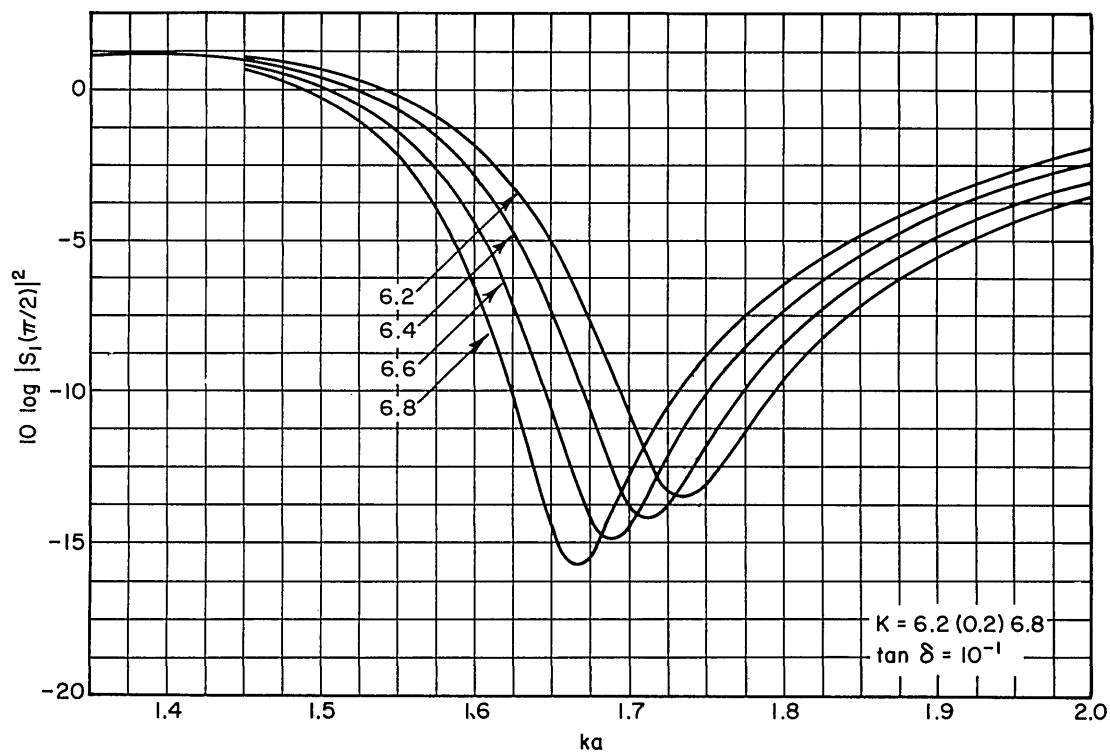


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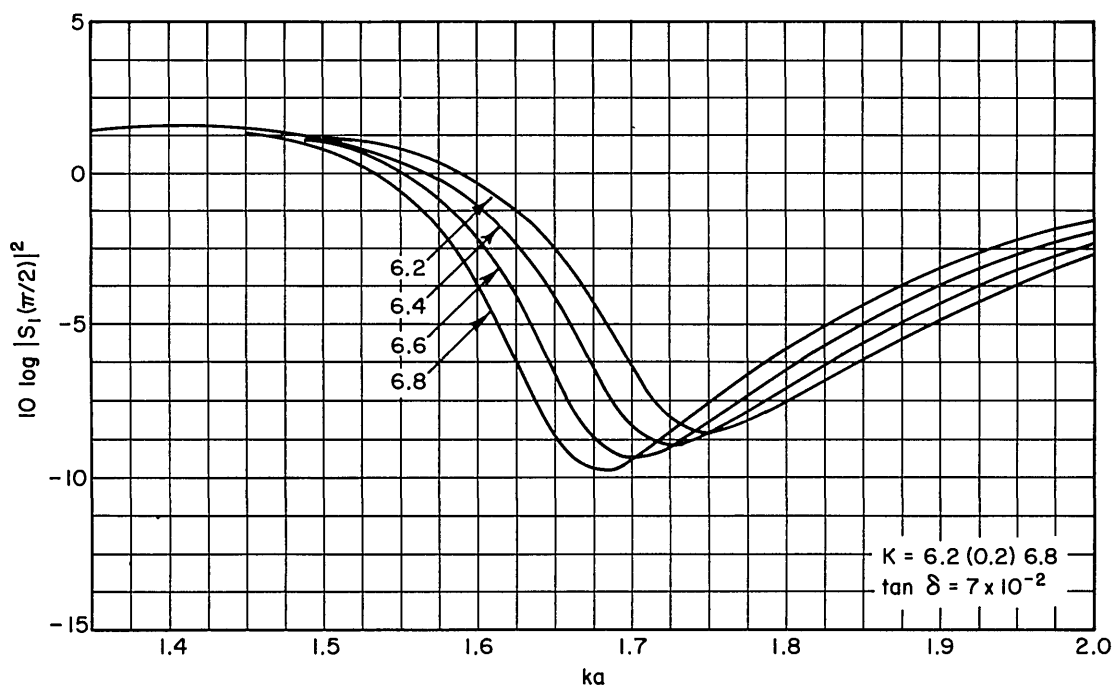


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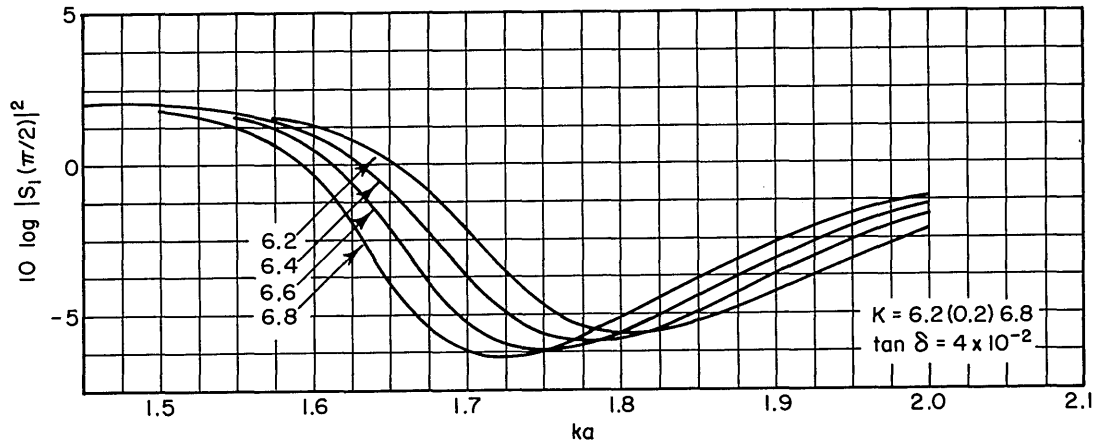


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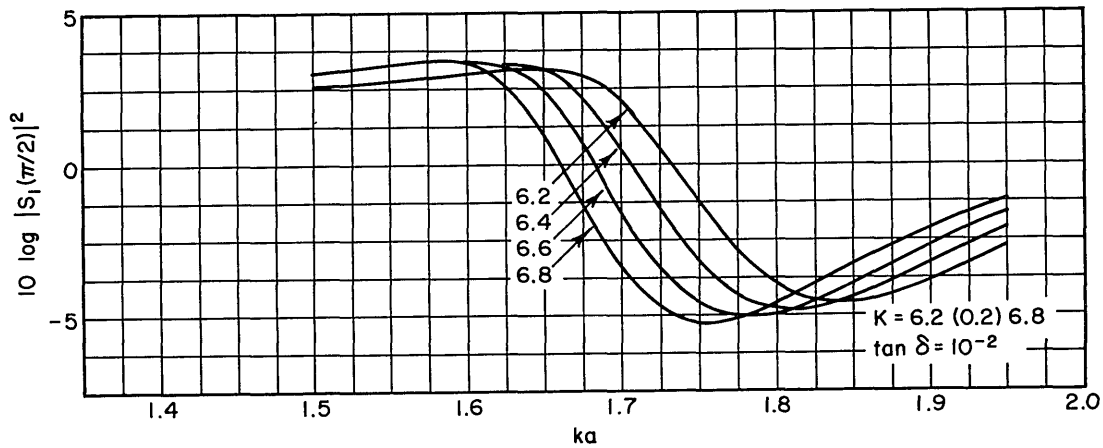


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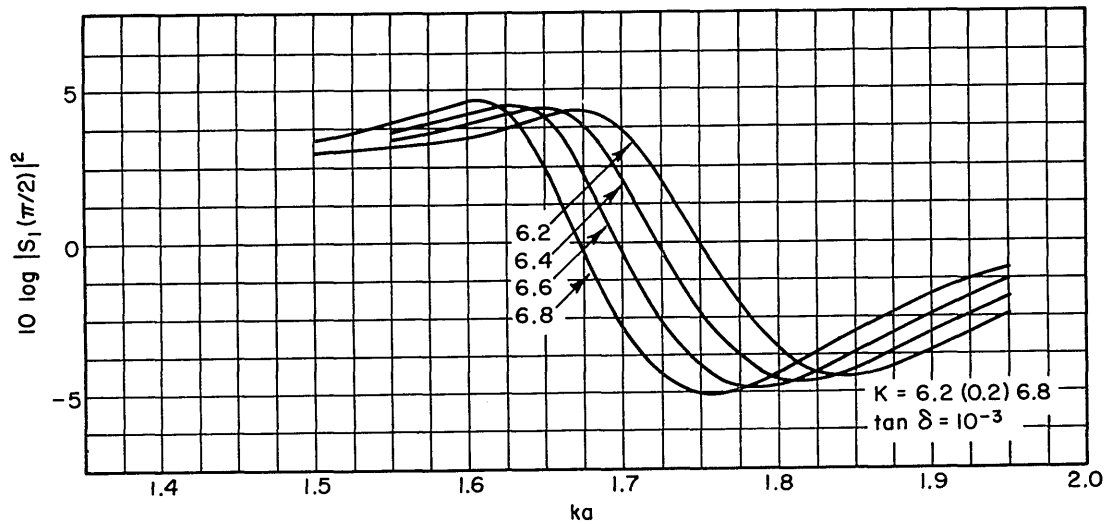


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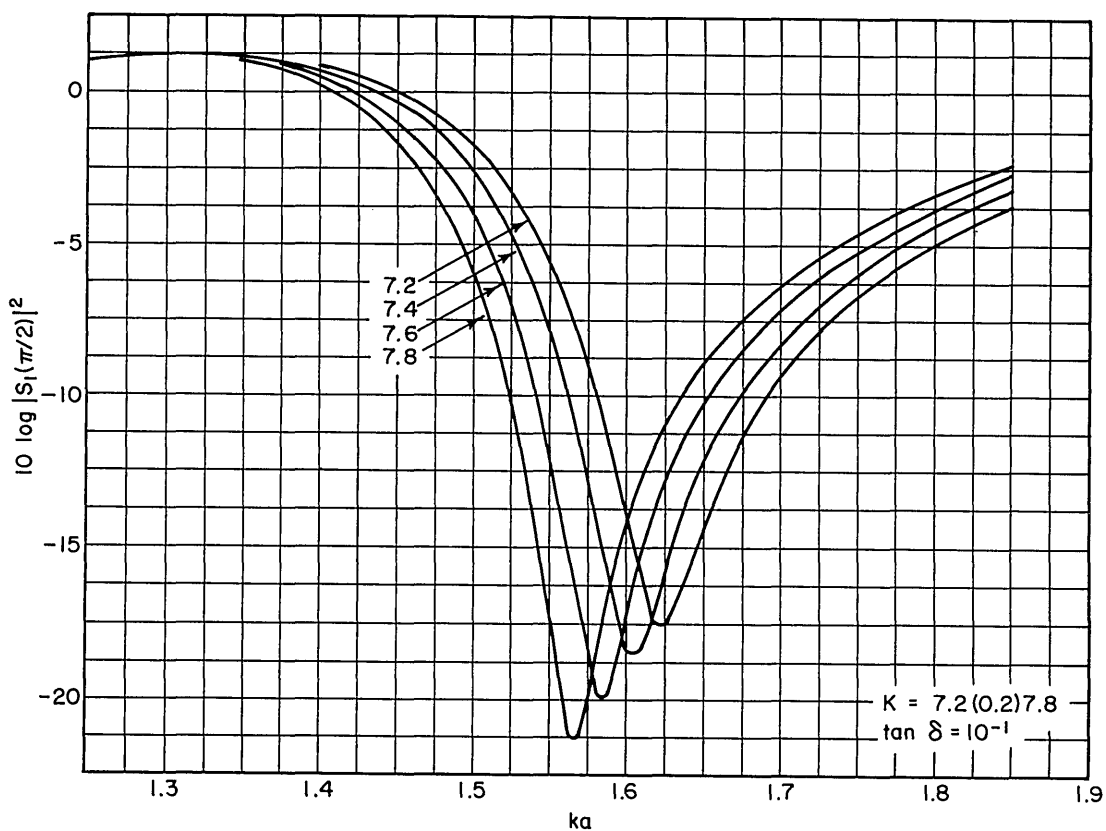


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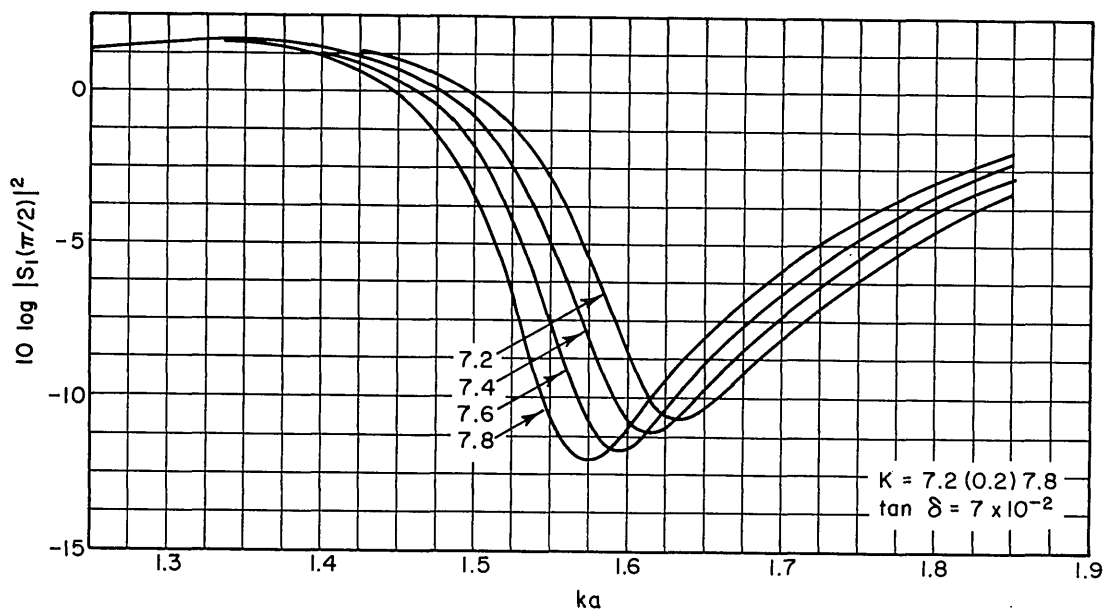


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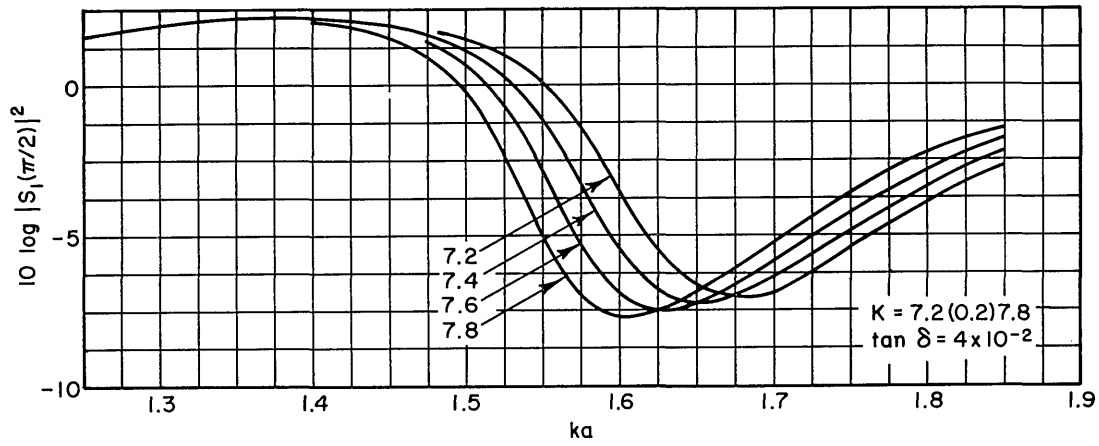


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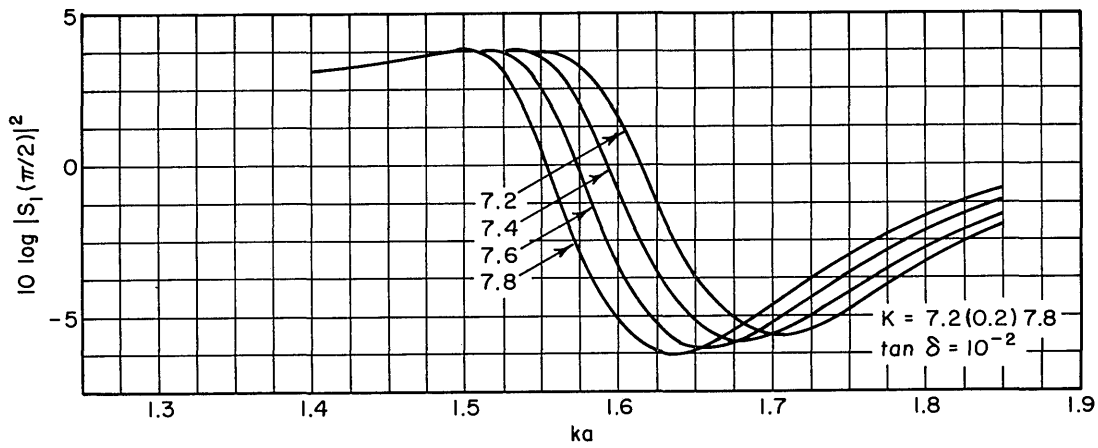


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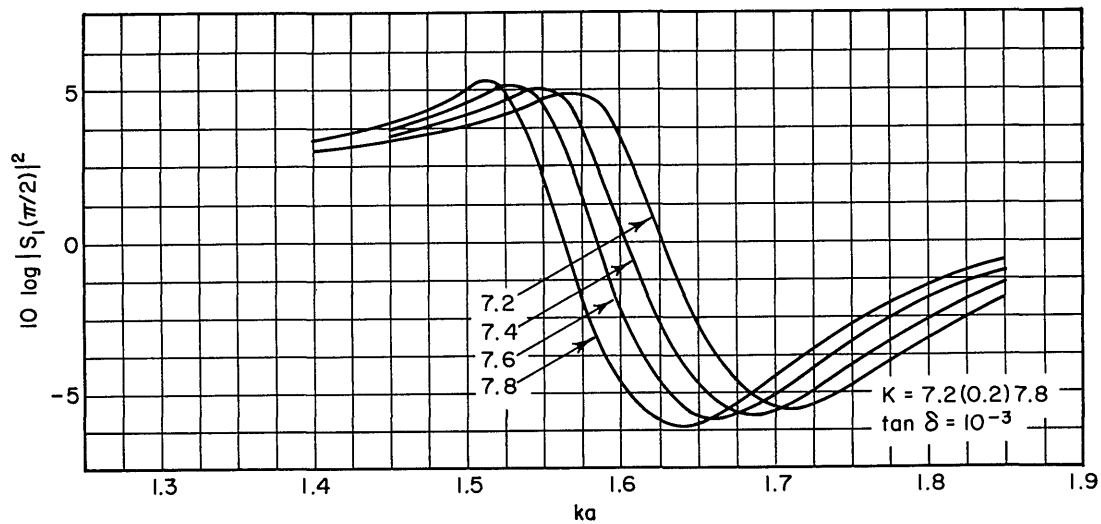


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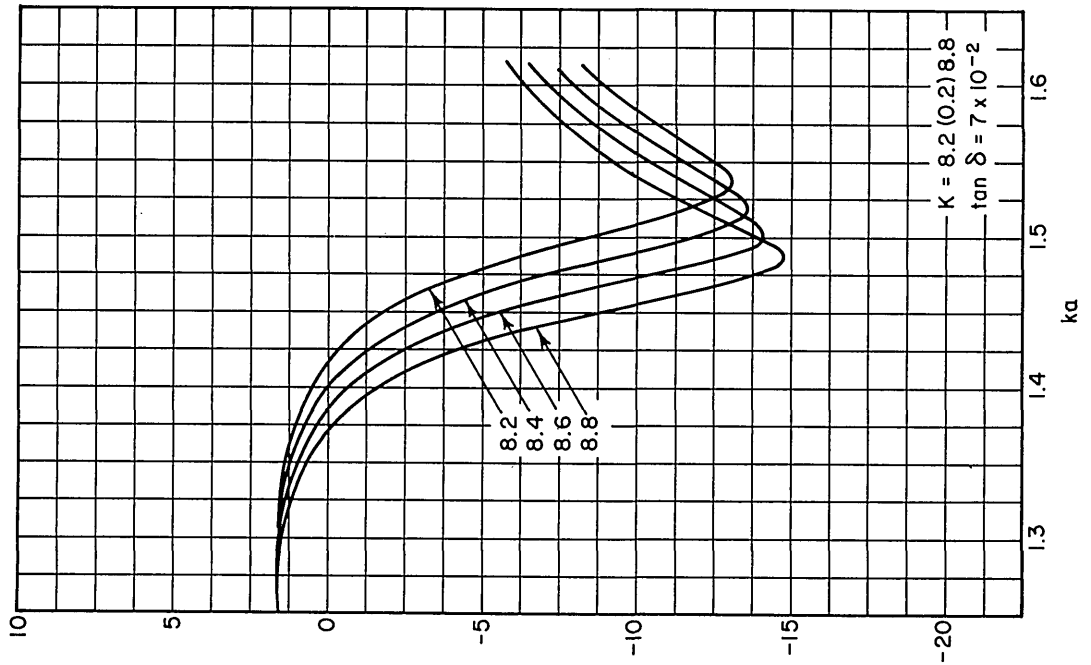


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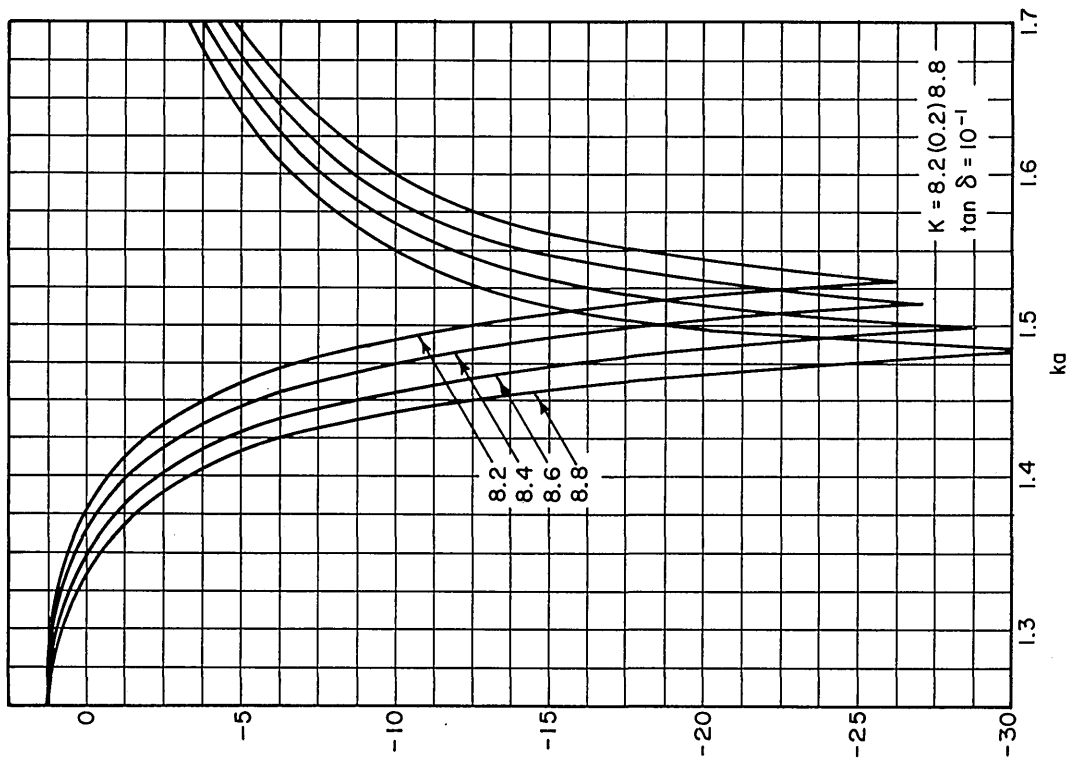


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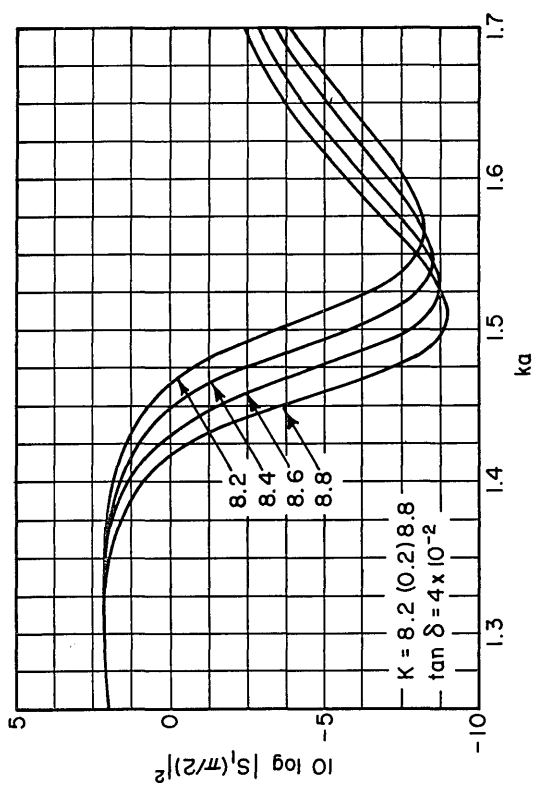


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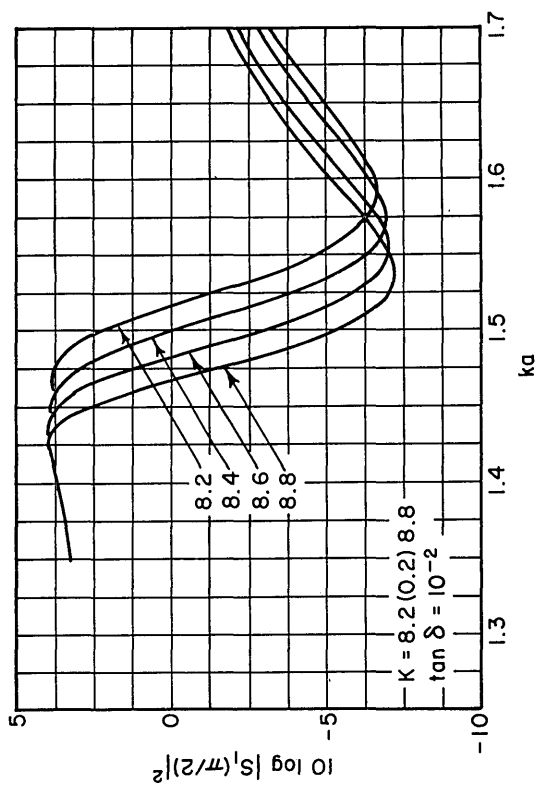


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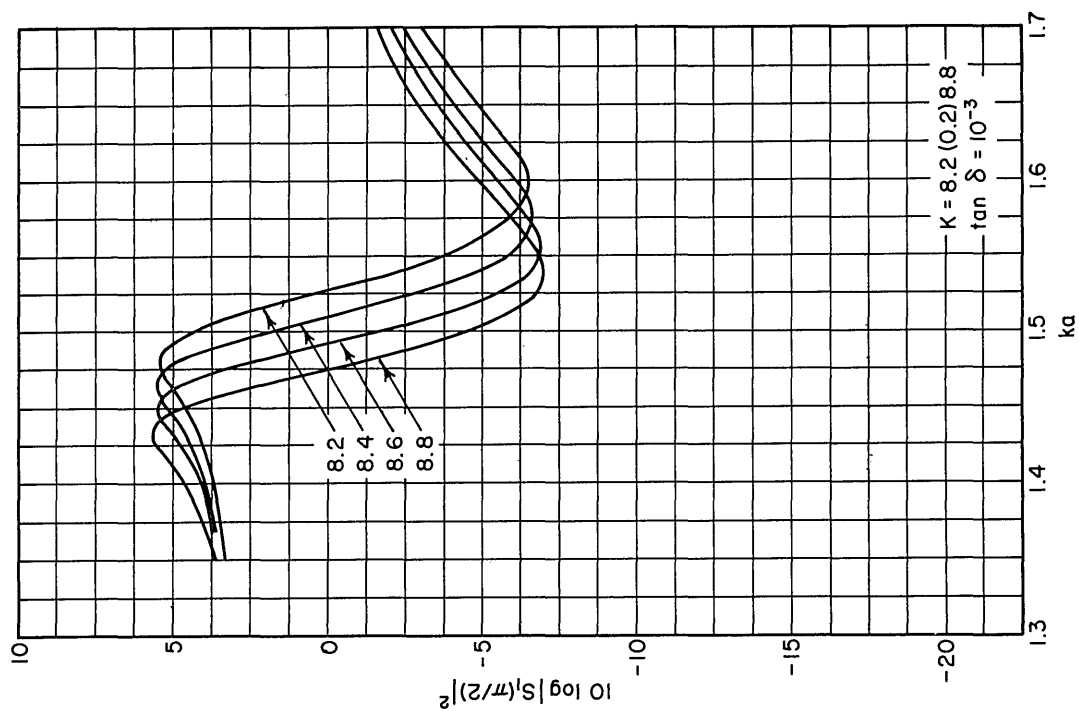


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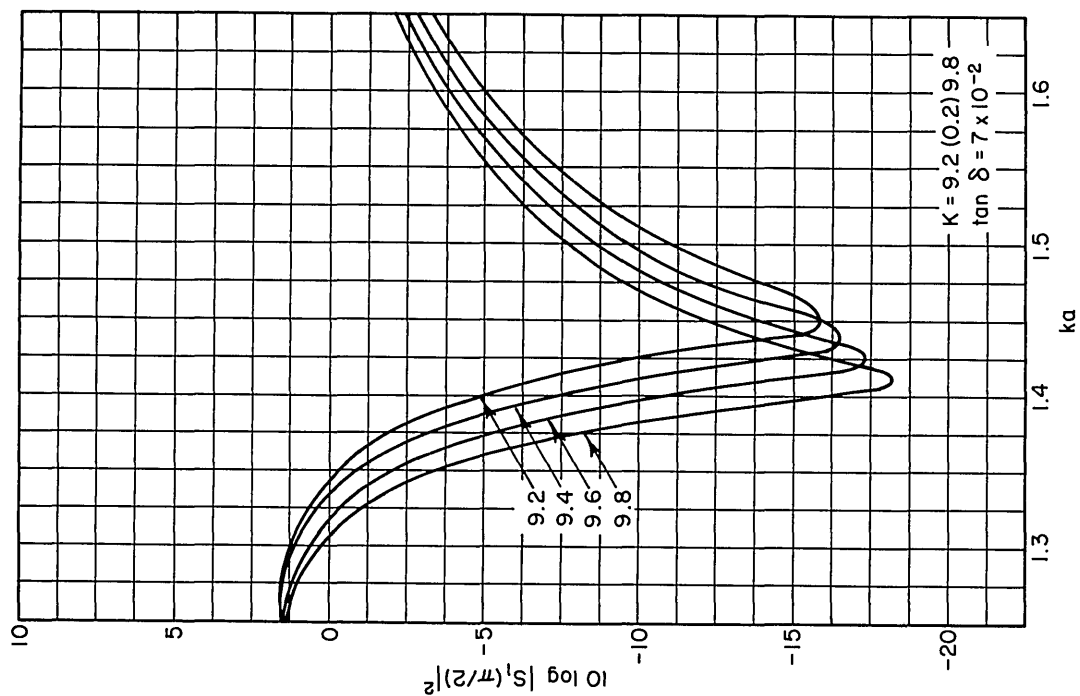


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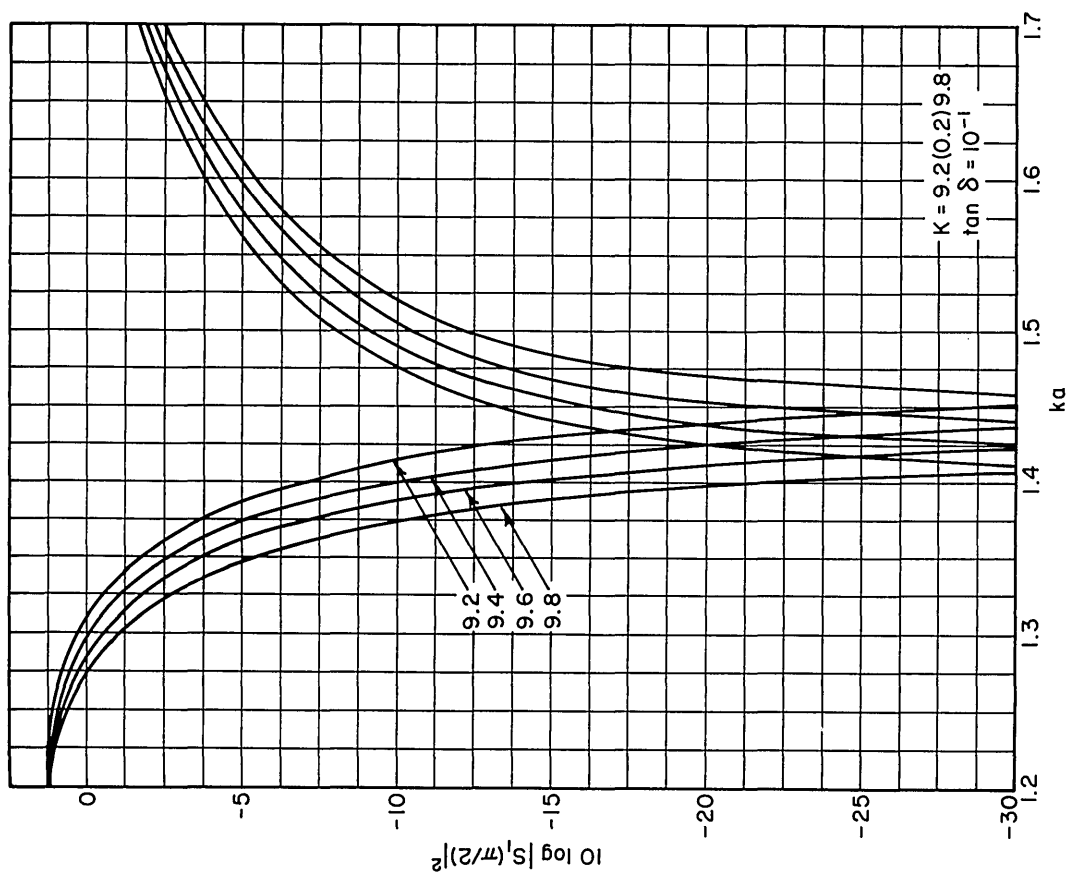


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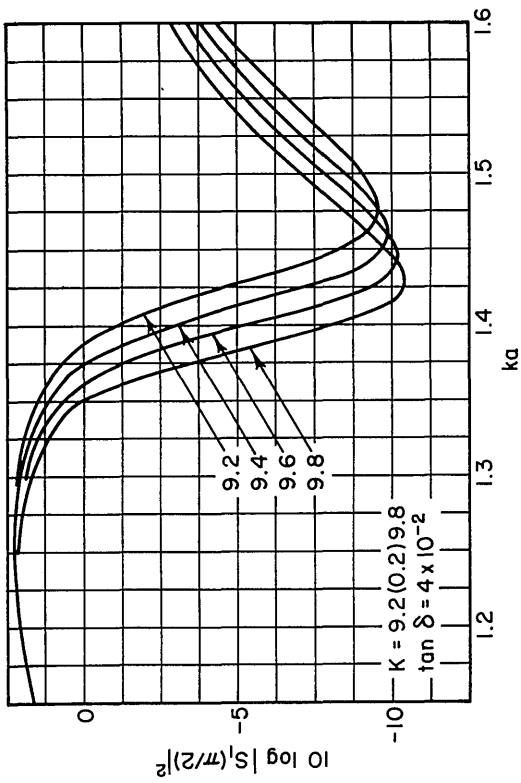


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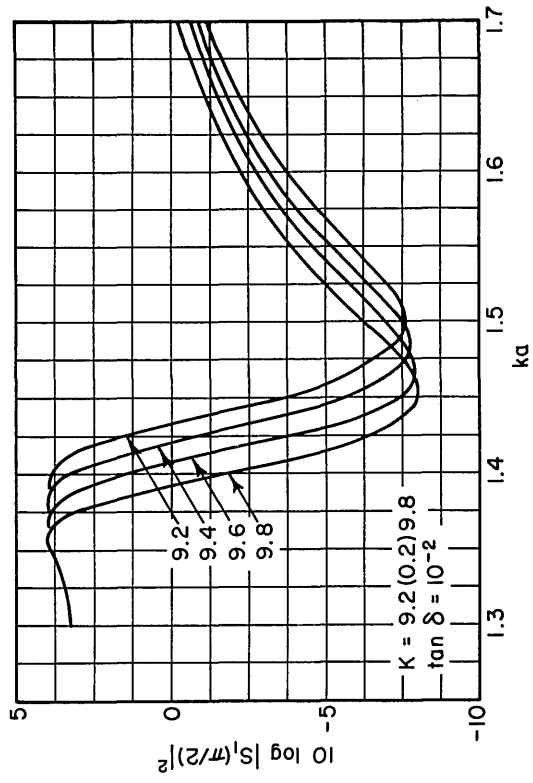


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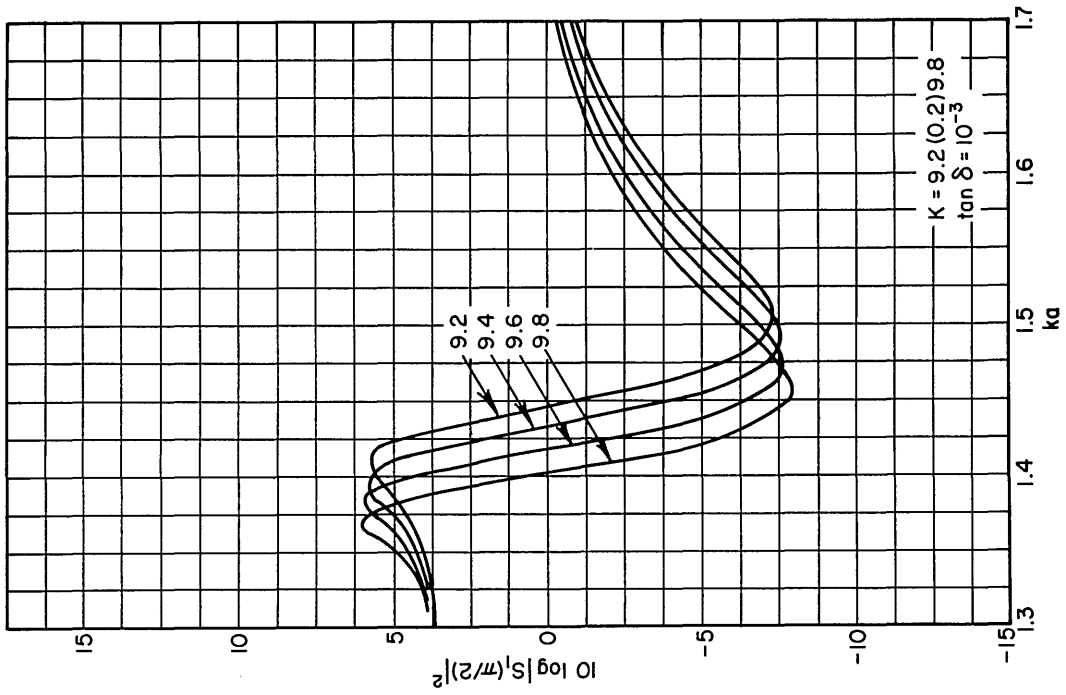


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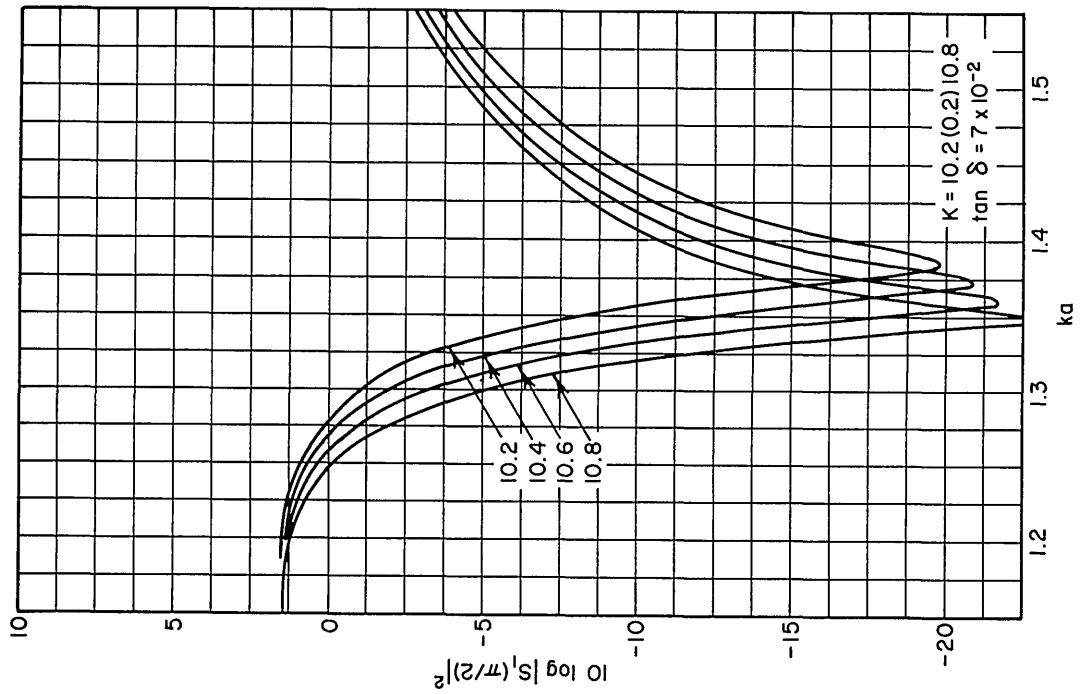


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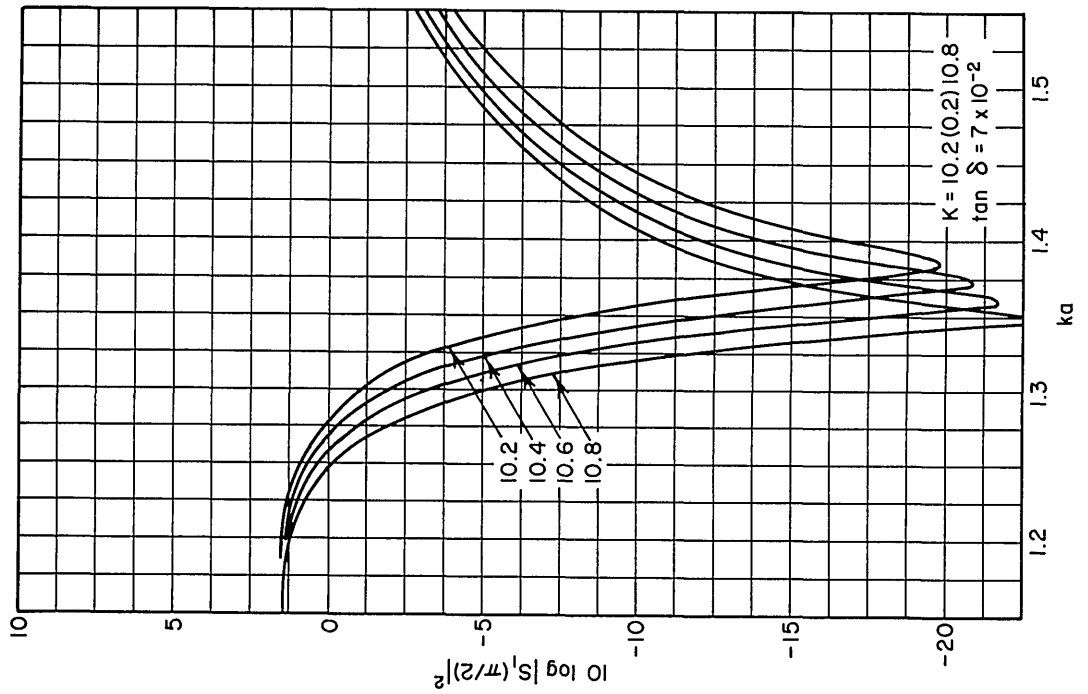


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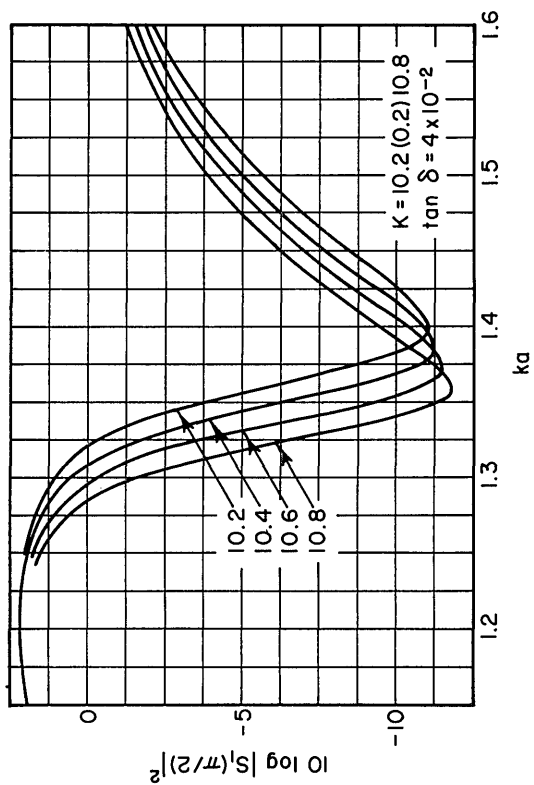


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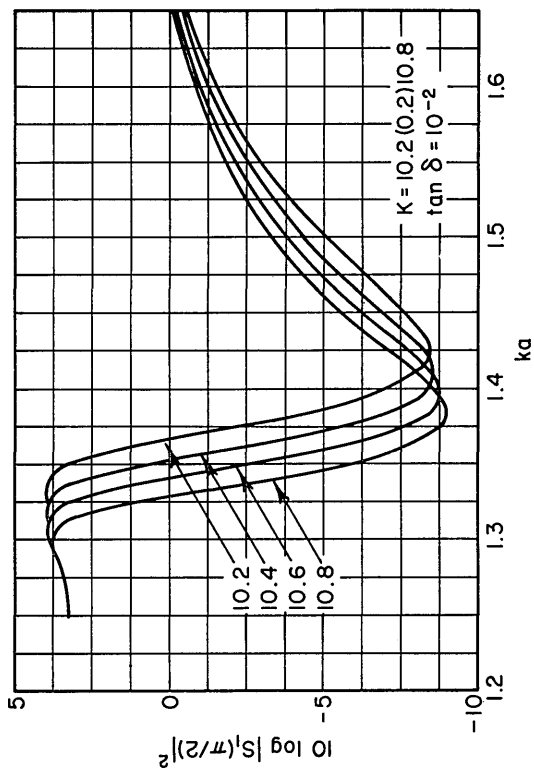


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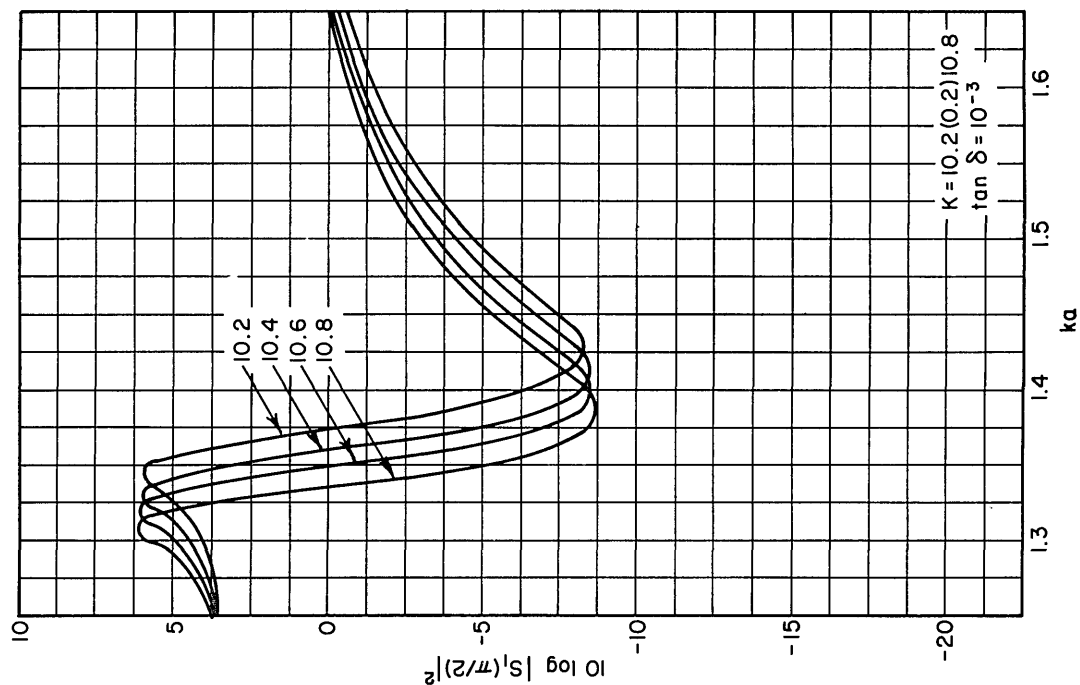


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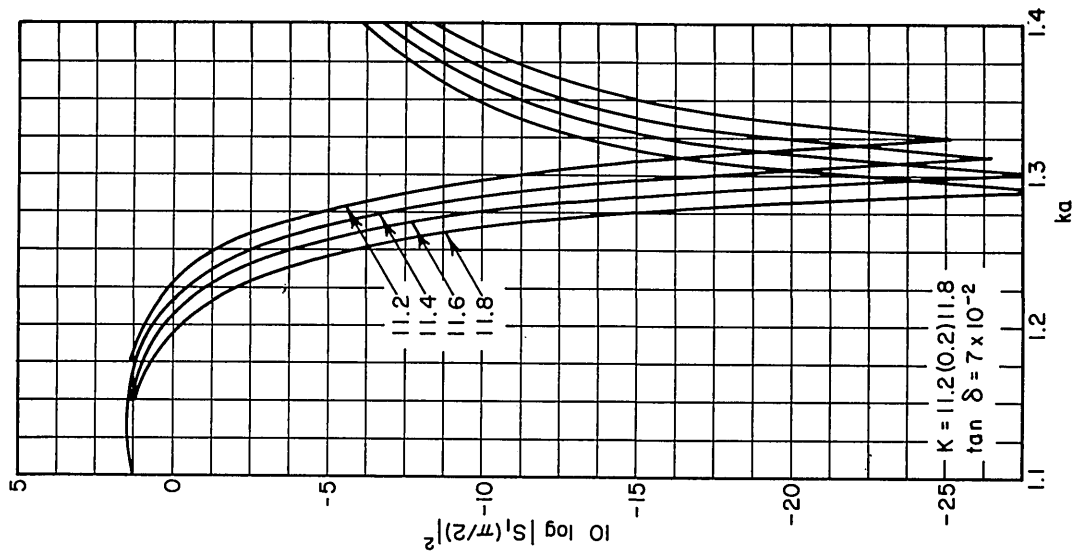


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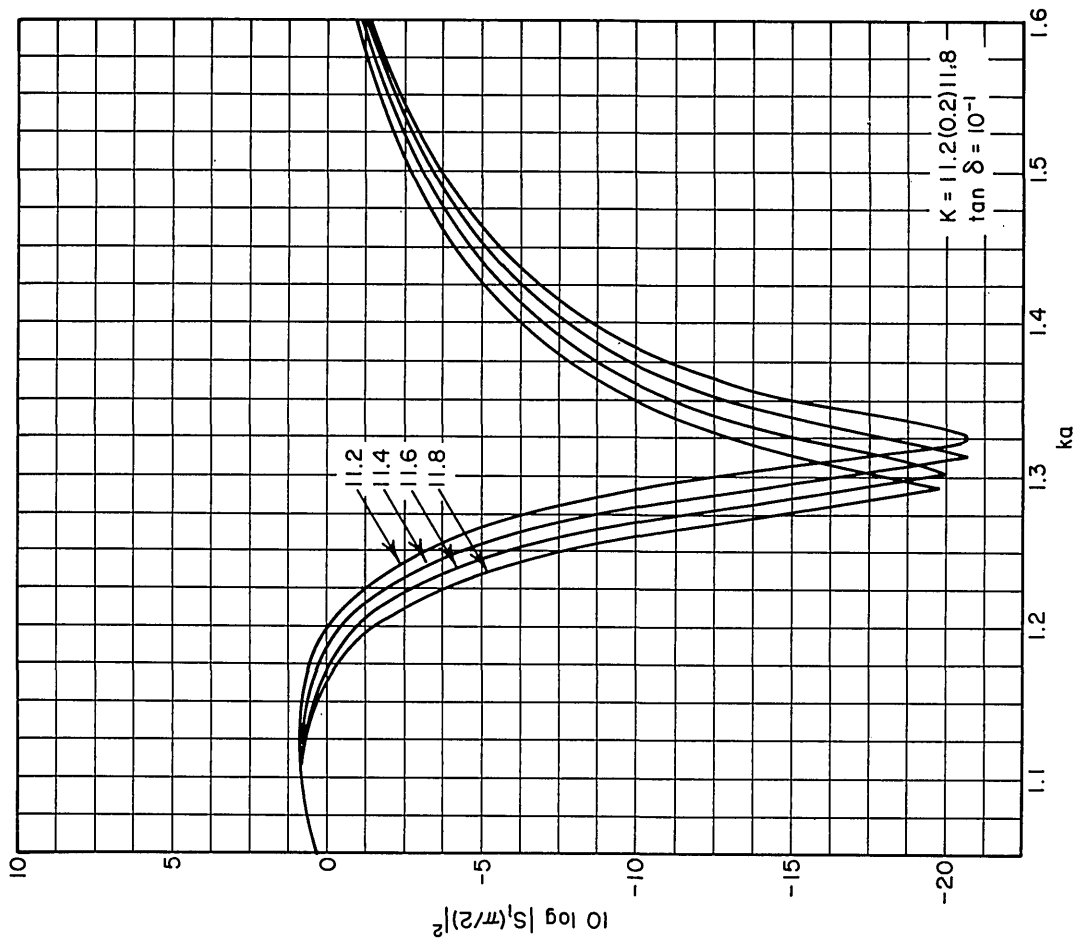


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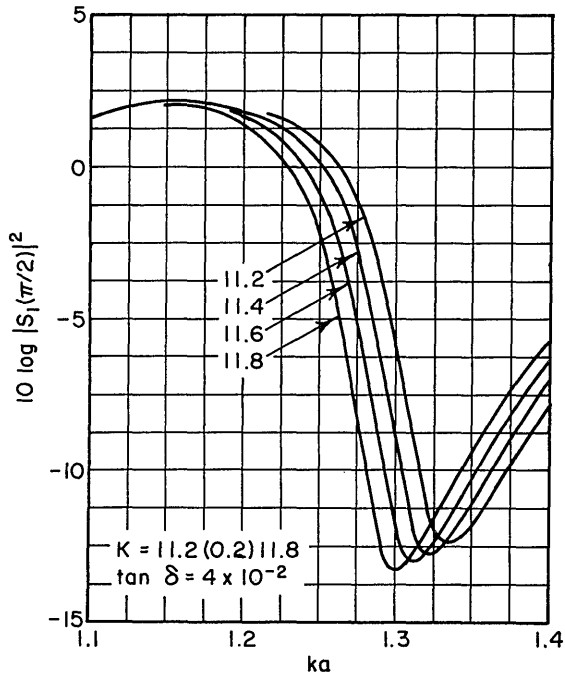


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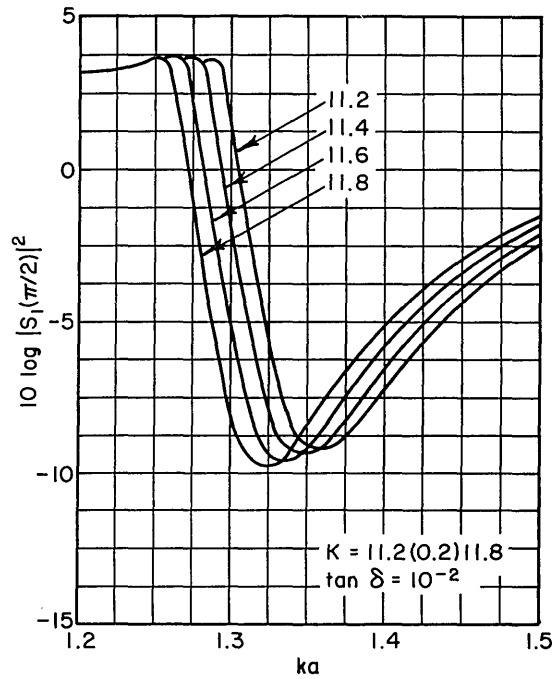


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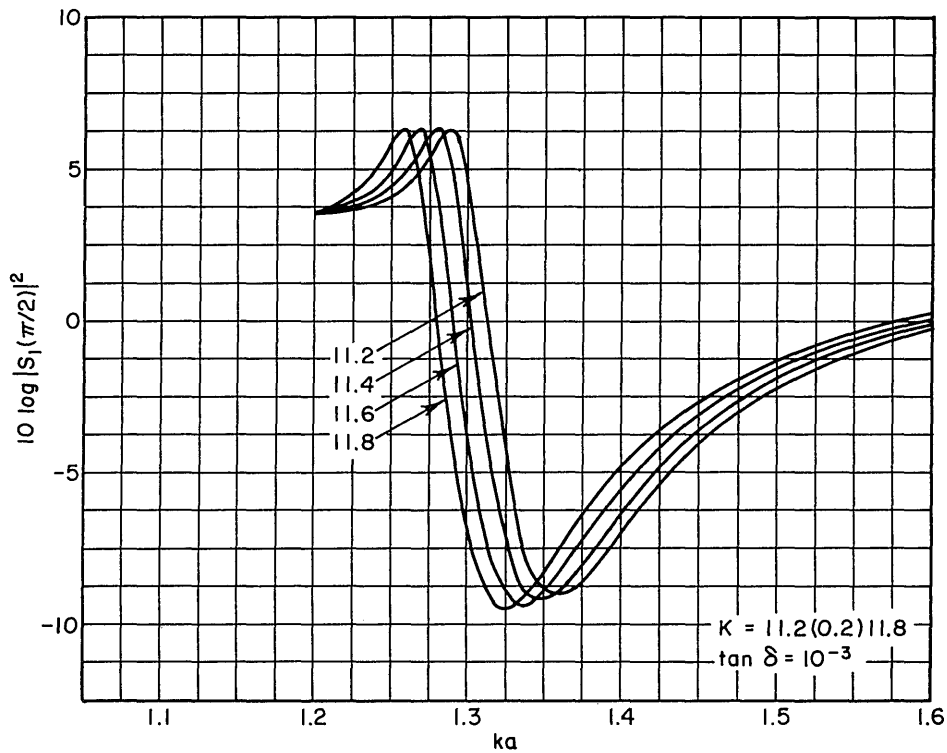


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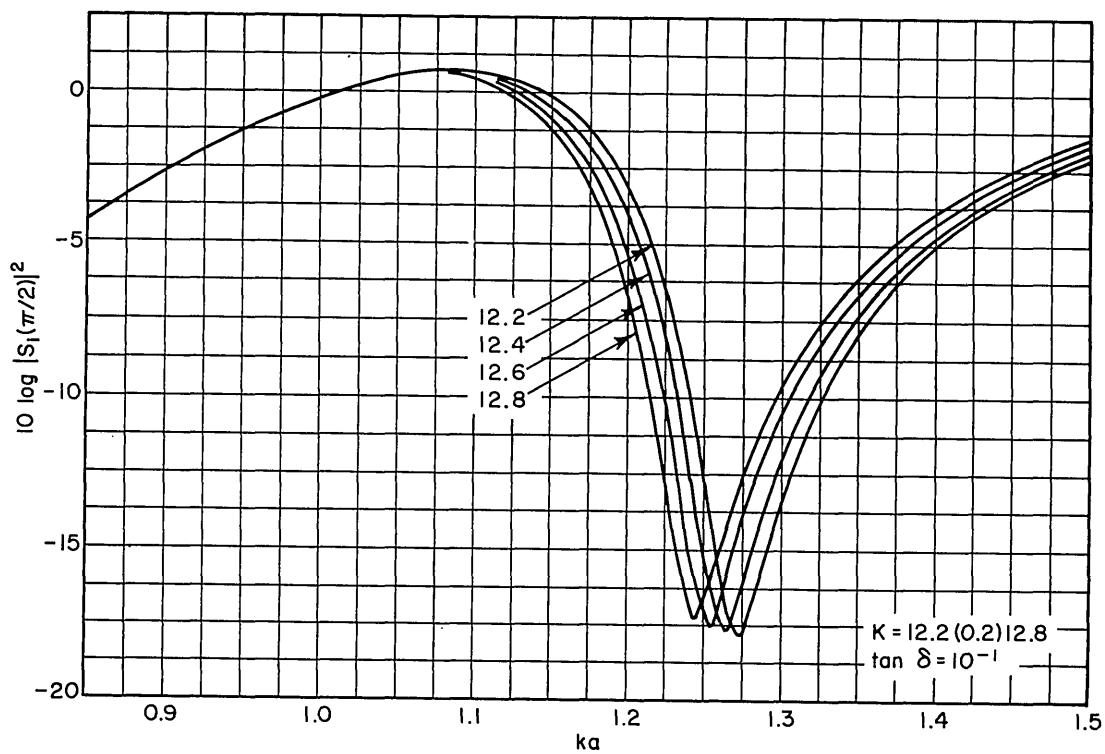


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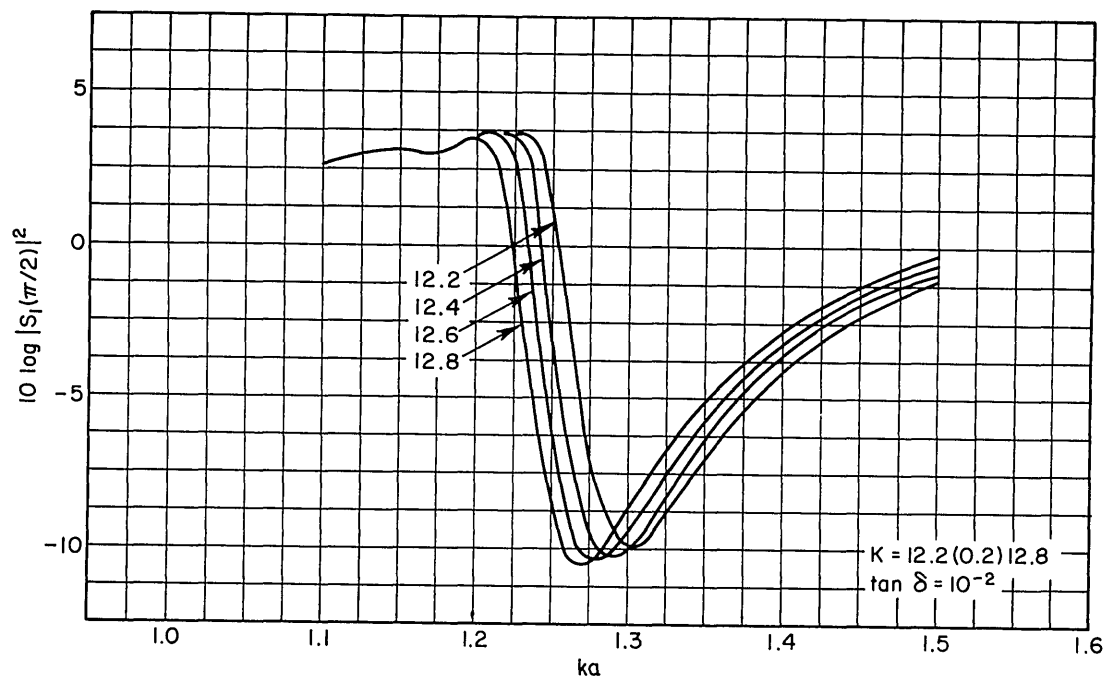


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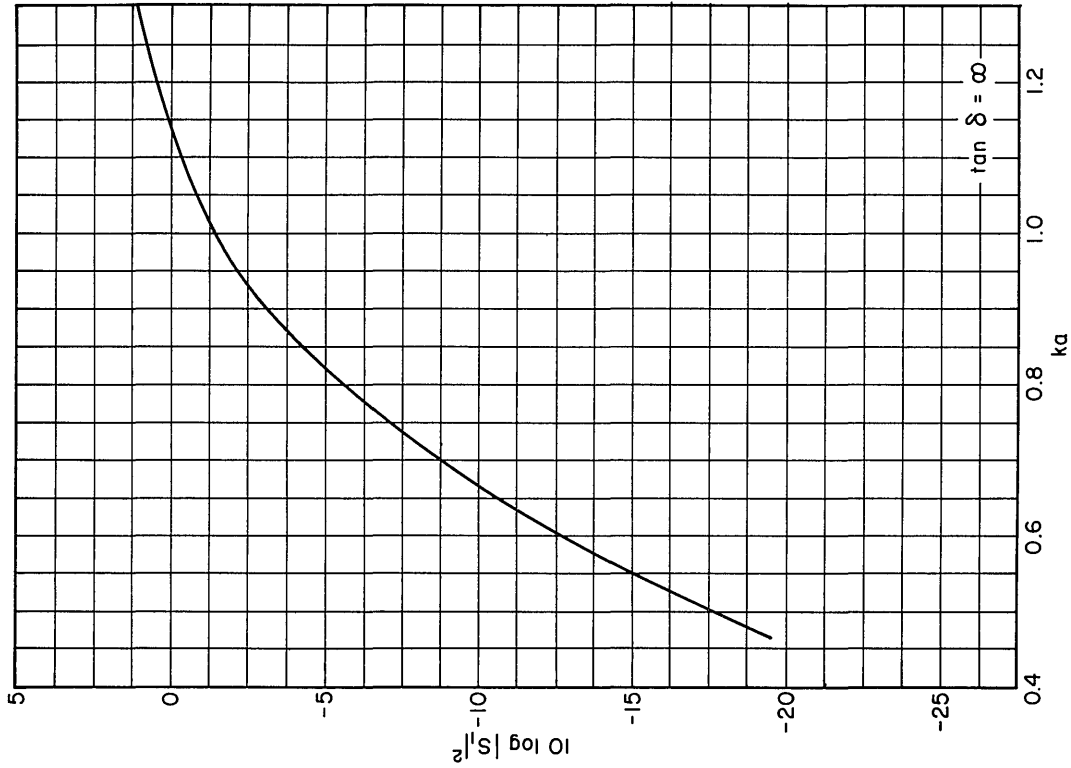


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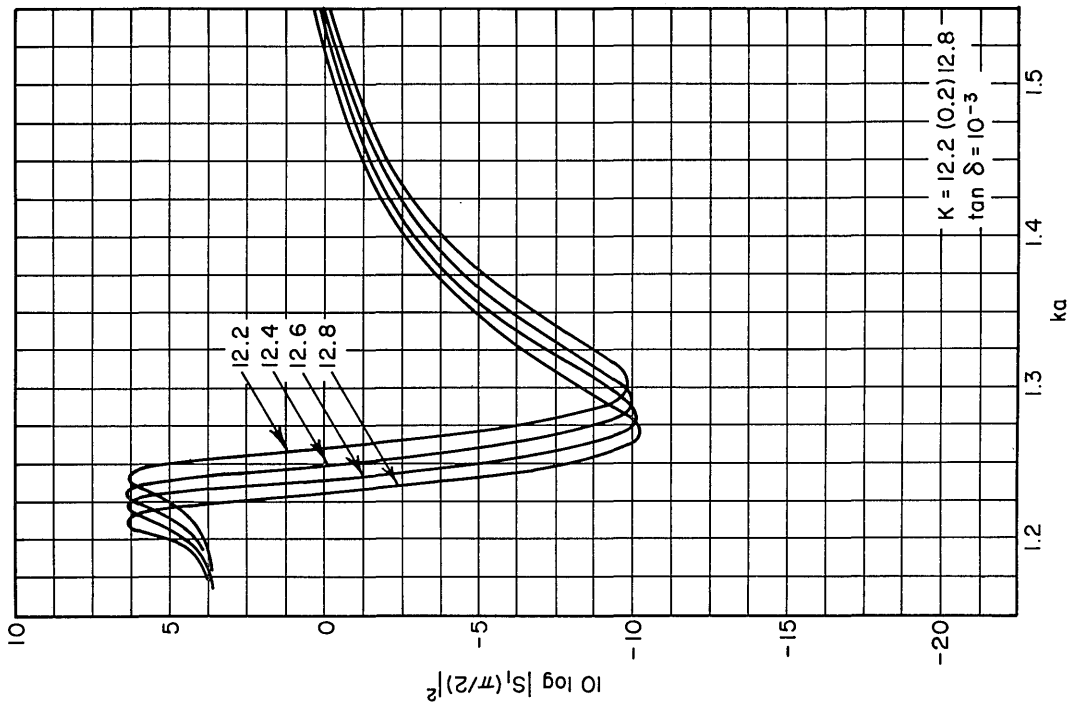


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5. AUTHOR(S) (Last name, first name, initial) Keller, W.C.			
6. REPORT DATE December 30, 1965	7a. TOTAL NO. OF PAGES 39	7b. NO. OF REFS 4	
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13. ABSTRACT The scattering intensity as a function of sphere size in wavelengths was plotted for H-plane scattering at 90° in the region of the first resonance. Graphs of K (the dielectric constant) from 5 to 24 and $\tan \delta$ (the loss tangent) from 0.001 to 0.2 are presented for nonmagnetic spheres in vacuo. The purpose of these data is to serve as a comparison standard in evaluating K and $\tan \delta$ by scattering measurements on a spherical sample. The experimental method is described in "A Method of Determining the Dielectric Constant Applicable to High Temperatures," published in the "Proceedings of the OSU-RTD Electromagnetic Window Symposium," Vol. III, June 1964.			

14. KEY WORDS		LINK A		LINK B		LINK C	
		ROLE	WT	ROLE	WT	ROLE	WT
High-temperature dielectric constant Dielectric properties Determination Measurement Spheres Electromagnetic waves Polarization Scattering Intensity High-temperature research							

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